



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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THE C. & D. DIARY, 1904.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

this *DIARY* will be the most profitable one we have ever published.

The demand for it is exceptionally large, because it is to contain all about the Medicine-stamp Acts and their difficulties, as well as thousands of formulæ for known, admitted, and approved remedies.

The only way to get the *DIARY* is to subscribe for *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*. If 10s. is sent in now, the Publisher will enter the subscription as from November 7. This applies to new subscribers as well as to those whose year ends on October 31.

TO ADVERTISERS

the *DIARY* will be equally profitable. There is no annual in the world connected with the chemical and drug trades which has such influence on business.

Every business-house which has goods to sell to our subscribers should be sure of getting space in the *DIARY*. The sooner the better, as the Publisher has little left. *C. & D.* advertisers whose contracts include an insertion in the *DIARY* should see for themselves whether their usual advertisement is a suitable one to speak all next year. If not, they must write to the Publisher at once and arrange with him as to what it is to go in.

Summary.

A HACKNEY CHEMIST is under remand on a charge of receiving stolen stamped medicines (p. 638).

THREE of the leading sponge-importing houses in London are amalgamating as a limited company (p. 659).

"PURIFIES THE BLOOD" on quinine-and-iron- tonic labels is held by the Board of Inland Revenue to be a dutiable expression (p. 655).

In the Crown Perfumery theft case the defendant avers that he purchased the goods at staff rates, and did not steal them (p. 636).

THE HEAVY FAILURES in the Minor examination bring a suggestion from the Midlands that a special committee should be appointed to investigate the matter (p. 639).

SIR GEORGE F. DUFFEY, who was for many years visitor (on behalf of "the Castle") of the Irish pharmaceutical examinations (p. 672), died in Dublin on Tuesday (p. 651).

BUSINESS is fairly good in produce-markets, the leading features being the advance in shellac and cloves. A large auction of drugs was held on Thursday, which are fully reported on p. 665.

CORRESPONDENTS want the re-sale of stamped medicines in small quantities to be stopped, also $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps for less than shilling's worths (pp. 660 and 661). We counsel caution (p. 655).

THE EXAMINATION-RESULTS reported include those of the Irish Pharmaceutical Preliminary (p. 641), and of the Major and Minor in Edinburgh, where the passes were better than in London (p. 651).

THE HON. ALBAN GIBBS has been elected Master of the Spectacle-makers' Company. The committee appointed to consider the advisability of instituting a sight-testing examination is still sitting (p. 638).

"DR. WILSON'S PINK PILLS for Anæmic People" has been held by the Cape Colony Chief Justice to be an infringement of the Dr. Williams's pills trade-mark, the whole get-up being considered (p. 658).

HORSE-SICKNESS, the bane of South Africa, cannot be eradicated by inoculation, according to Dr. A. Edington. "True immunity can never be obtained," he says in his annual report as Government bacteriologist (p. 657).

MR. WALTER FORBES, in a paper read to the West Ham Chemists' Association, gave a useful *résumé* of the Medicine-stamp Acts, showing how recent interpretations will be advantageous to chemists (p. 646).

THE BOARD OF INLAND REVENUE inform us that after further consideration they will not now require the formula for a medicine to be indicated on the label when there are several for the same in a book of reference (p. 654).

THE ELECTRIC VIGOUR BELTS have figured at Bow Street in connection with the prosecution of "the doctor" for infringement of the Medical Act. Defendant was formerly a registered medical practitioner. He was fined (p. 658).

MR. A. C. WOOTTON, addressing the East Sussex Pharmaceutical Association, urged pharmacists to stick together in regard to the company clause, which is the vital part of the Pharmacy Bill. The members of the Association agreed (p. 649).

"XRAYSER" prophecies early amendment of the Medicine-stamp Acts, as he considers the Board of Inland Revenue have, in a sense, bitten off more than they can chew. He does not share our view about the new clause of the Pharmacy Bill (p. 653).

MR. JOHNSTON MONTGOMERY, of Belfast, has been elected President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, with Mr. W. F. Wells as Vice-President. The Council at the same time authorised sixteen names to be struck off the pharmaceutical registers (p. 671).

MR. D. B. DOTT criticises Mr. A. C. Wootton's free-trade views in a letter on p. 660, denying that Powers & Wightman had a quinine-monopoly or that protection creates monopoly. On the same page Mr. A. Zimmermann argues that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is all wrong in his figures about British exports, and Mr. G. Harold Kent submits his own fiscal policy formulated last August.

"COMMERCIAL PREFERENCE" is the title of Mr. R. A. Robinson's contribution on the fiscal question. He urges that the saving in buying foreign goods cheap is lost tenfold in wages paid to foreign instead of British workmen, and that the time has come for an inquiry into our fiscal policy, with the view to modifying it so as to promote free trade within the Empire and bind the parts more firmly together (p. 669).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The Brewers' Exhibition will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, from October 17 to 23.

The premises of Messrs. Boots, at Mumps, Oldham, were broken into during the night of October 9. Happily all the cash was in the safe, and the burglars were disappointed.

An Exhibition of Colonial Products will be held in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, from January 5 to 8, 1904. Sir Alfred L. Jones is President of the Board of Management. The offices are at A5 Exchange Buildings and 26 Union Street, Liverpool.

A small explosion occurred on October 12 at the premises of Messrs. Johnson & Son, manufacturing chemists, Cross Street, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., and the newspapers gave very exaggerated accounts of it, little harm being done either to men or property.

Damage to the extent of between 80% and 90% was done by fire to the premises of Mr. John Hague, chemist and druggist, of High Street, St. Botolph's, Lincoln, last week. The fire originated in the warehouse, and about 180 gallons of oil was destroyed.

The late Alderman Benjamin Robinson, chemist, of Salford, has bequeathed 500% to the Mayor and Aldermen of Salford to found a chemistry scholarship—to be known as the "Benjamin Robinson Scholarship"—to be competed for at the Salford Technical Institute.

At a meeting of Devonport and Stonehouse chemists, held on October 12, Mr. Lambie was nominated as Divisional Secretary for the Pharmaceutical Society, and he and Mr. Weary were asked to interview the local chemists in order that one should be selected to represent the P.A.T.A. in Devonport.

While two labourers were wheeling a carboy of sulphuric acid at a size-factory in Bermondsey last week, the carboy fell and broke, saturating one of the men with the acid. He died shortly afterwards in Guy's Hospital. The Coroner's jury suggested that a solution of carbonate of soda be kept for emergencies of that sort.

An auction sale under distraint was held at the Goole Alum-works on October 9, on a magistrate's order upon Messrs. Peter Spence & Sons, chemical manufacturers, to pay 1% 19s. 7d., the amount they had deducted (as passive resistors) from the poor-rate. The goods marked for sale—three rolls of sheet-lead—were bought in by the firm for 6%.

Cissy Brinkman, an actress, who was remanded at Bow Street with stealing a diamond ring value 15% belonging to Mrs. Margaret Curtis, wife of Mr. M. Curtis, chemist and druggist, 51 High Holborn, W.C., has been discharged (see *C. & D.*, October 10, page 600), the Magistrate observing that no jury would convict on the evidence which had been given.

At a special court of the governors of King's College Hospital, on October 13, Mr. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., in the chair, resolutions were agreed to, after discussion, approving the proposal to remove the hospital to a site in the South of London, and authorising the committees acting in the matter to acquire a site, and to apply to Parliament for the necessary powers.

The Spectacle-makers Company.

Last week Sir Marcus Samuel, Lord Mayor of London, presided over a Court of the Spectacle-makers Company, at which the Hon. Alban G. H. Gibbs, M.P., was elected Master for the ensuing year; Mr. W. H. E. Thornthwaite, F.R.A.S., Upper Warden; and Lord Burnham, Renter Warden. A memorial, signed by Lord Kelvin, Sir Wm. Crookes, Sir Robert Ball, and others, was presented asking the Court to institute, on behalf of the public, an examination in sight-testing for opticians who had obtained the diploma of the company as expert spectacle makers and sellers. It was

sent for consideration to the special committee now sitting on the subject. The Lord Mayor has presented a silver cup to the company in commemoration of his year of office as Master.

L.C.C. Contracts.

At a meeting of the London County Council, on October 13, it was agreed, on the recommendation of the Main-drainage Committee, to accept the tender of Messrs. T. Herschel, Jones & Co., for 3,300 tons of proto-sulphate of iron at the Barking outfall works at 21s. per ton, and the tender of Mr. David Matthews for 2,250 tons of proto-sulphate of iron at the Crossness outfall works at 20s. 4½d. per ton.

Sheffield Notes.

At the annual meeting of the governors of the Royal Hospital, West Street, held on October 12, it was stated that 69,188 prescriptions were dispensed, against 62,900 last year, being an increase of 6,288.

At the annual meeting of the Sheffield Photographic Society, last week, Mr. J. Gilbert Jackson, chemist and druggist, was again appointed a member of the Council. The Society is in a very flourishing condition, with a membership of close upon a hundred.

At a meeting of the Sheffield Corporation Health Committee, on October 8, it was agreed that Dr. Charles Porter, of the University College, should be appointed interim medical officer of health until Dr. Scurfield, "or other permanent medical officer of health," enters upon his duties.

The President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Walter Long, M.P.) was the guest of the evening at the Cutlers' Feast here last week. Earlier in the day Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, in his capacity as Poor-law Guardian, accompanied Mr. Long over some of the Scattered Homes of the Sheffield Union.

Mr. Alfred H. Allen, the public analyst, in his quarterly report to the Sheffield Health Committee, states that amongst the 131 samples analysed were three of compound liquorice-powder and four of camphorated oil, all of which were genuine. One sample of sweet spirit of nitre contained less than half of the minimum proportion of ethyl nitrite required by the B.P., and had 1.89 per cent. excess of water.

Amongst those who have accepted invitations to be present at the annual dinner of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society on October 29 are the Lord Mayor (Alderman J. Wycliffe Wilson), Dr. Hicks, the Principal, Dr. Dyson, the head of the Medical Faculty of the University College, and Mr. Batty Langley, M.P., who is known to pharmacists as one of those who blocked the Pharmacy Bill last Session.

Goods at Staff Prices.

At North London Police Court on October 14, Mr. Fordham was again engaged for a long time in hearing the charge against Robert Dibb (27), clerk, of stealing soaps, perfumery, &c., worth 25%, the property of the Crown Perfumery Company, of Sidney Road, Homerton, between January and May of the present year (see *C. & D.*, October 10, page 600). The evidence already given was that the prisoner had been despatch-clerk in the employ of the company, and, with two other men (who have been sentenced), stole a quantity of soaps, scents, showcases, &c. The present charges alleged that the prisoner sent parcels to a friend named Beavis, and the company did not authorise it; and the reply was that these goods had been purchased by the prisoner at staff prices, as was the privilege of the employés of the firm, and sold again by him as "job" or "damaged" goods. The prosecution called various employés of the Great Eastern Railway to prove that goods ostensibly from the Crown Perfumery Company had been delivered to and paid for by a Mr. Beavis, of Leyton. Mr. Beavis, called as a witness, said he was secretary to a public company, and was living at present at Winifred Road, Clapham. He was living in January and February last at Nott's Green, Leyton. The prisoner Dibb, who had been a personal friend of his for the past six years, told him he could supply him with soaps at staff prices. He agreed to have some. A quantity of the scap he received from Dibb was called

"Buttermilk." He had also received a parcel of curd soap. The goods were paid for either by postal order, by cash, or by bottles of bovril, which he (witness) could get at staff price. Prisoner told witness he had receipts for all the goods he bought from the Crown Perfumery Company, but he (witness) had no receipts for money paid to prisoner. He always regarded Dibb as an honest man, and still believed him to be so. He had had dealings with Dibb for some considerable time, and received numerous parcels from him, both by rail and carriers. Some of the parcels had the Crown Perfumery Company's labels. He received buttermilk soap two or three times from Dibb. He bought goods from Dibb to sell again. He did not have scent. But he had metal figures, photograph-frames, dress-material, chatelaine-bags, and these he sold to the staff where he was employed. He used to supply prisoner with bovril on the same terms. Mr. Avery (for the defence): And the Bovril Company have not charged you with theft, and are not likely to? The Witness: I was with the Bovril Company for six years. Mr. Fordham: Is it usual for employers to sell to their servants goods to sell again? The Witness: Not in large quantities, but up to 10s. worth occasionally, and then we did not sell at a profit, but to oblige friends. Mr. Fordham: It seems to me rather odd. Further evidence having been given, the case was again adjourned.

Transactions in Patents.

Mr. James Lloyd Davies, chemist and druggist, aged thirty-seven, of Mare Street, Hackney, Arthur Levy, aged sixty-one, general dealer, Homerton, and William Fordham, aged fifty-seven, comb-maker, Hackney, were charged at Worship Street Police Court, on October 9, with being concerned together in feloniously receiving since June last 595 boxes of pills and 360 vials of pills, value 50%, the goods of the Co-operative Wholesale Society (Limited). It was said that the police had been desired by the prosecutors to inquire as to the sale of patent medicines by the defendant Davies, and that, acting under directions, Davies, who carried on business in Mare Street, was called on and questioned as to a quantity of pills and other things he was told had been traced to his possession. He denied having bought any pills for four years, saying that he had overstocked himself long ago, and had only about sixty boxes in his shop. However, when search was made the property named in the charge was found, and Davies then said that he had been offered them at a low price, and had no idea they were stolen. The dealing with them was traced to the other two prisoners. It was said that all the prisoners were in good positions, Levy owning considerable property. A remand was granted, bail in 100% each being allowed.

Birmingham Notes.

A movement is on foot to construct a canal from the Mersey to Birmingham, through the Potteries and Wolverhampton.

Mr. M. O. Suffield, chemist and druggist, has created so extensive a trade in midget photographs that he has cast aside pharmacy for the more lucrative practice of photography.

A phenomenon is apparent in Birmingham this week. In the local daily papers an advertisement is appearing for an apprentice-chemist: "Educated youth—a premium required."

Sparkbrook is being hoomed as a residential suburb. The number of chemists' shops in that district is almost as numerous as the doctors' brass plates. Dr. Priestley had a house there.

The chemist's business founded by Mr. Brassington, of Moseley, has again changed hands. Recently Messrs. Smirk & Neale were the proprietors, and now Mr. E. Gascoyne has acquired it. There is a fine shop and a large dwelling-house attached.

Sir Victor Horsley and his *confrères* at Birmingham last week spoke strongly against the use of alcohol as a beverage; and Professor Priestley Smith considered that "smoking is another evil which the medical profession ought to take steps to check."

Mr. T. B. Allkins, pharmaceutical chemist, and a prominent citizen of Tamworth, took sides with another townsman in

denouncing the action of the local police in jostling a man in the street recently, with the result that the summons taken out by the official was dismissed with costs against the complainant.

A keen rivalry exists amongst Midland firms in the matter of contracts to local hospitals for drugs, surgical appliances, and medical comforts. As much as 15 per cent. and 20 per cent. is allowed off current price-lists in order to secure the coveted orders, which in many cases come to several thousands of pounds.

Gradually but surely the older members of the local Association are leaving for fresh fields and pastures new. A very well-known and useful member, Mr. C. G. Crooke, has gone to Burnley, Lancashire, where he has secured a good business. He has sold his Bromsgrove shop to Mr. W. Corbett, who was the former proprietor.

The wet weather has brought with it many ills, amongst them sheep-rot, which has called forth a letter in the *Post* containing an old remedy for the complaint—viz., "a mixture of turpentine, black pepper, and common salt, and a sheep's horn half-full for each sheep." Quantities are not stated, but the agricultural chemist can no doubt supply these.

Mr. Herbert Marshall, chemist and druggist, who, in conjunction with his brother, had two shops one at Moseley Village and the other at Sparkhill—has sold the latter and gone to a new business at Worcester. Mr. Marshall, who lately has not had very good health, was a pupil of Mr. T. W. Chapman, Bristol Street, and for a long time was in the establishment of Messrs. Bird & Son, Worcester Street, Birmingham.

In conversation with a local pharmaceutical educationist, it was suggested to our correspondent that a Commission might be appointed by the Pharmaceutical Council to inquire into the cause of the lamentable number of failures at the Minor examination. The Commission might be composed of experts in pharmacy, examiners, and teachers, and other experts. Examiners, teachers, and examinees might be invited to give evidence. The report would doubtless be a piquant one.

The lady dispensers of Birmingham are very indignant at an article which appeared recently in a paper devoted to their needs, in which it was stated that little or no training was required to become a lady dispenser, and that the remuneration was very good. No fewer than three lady dispensers have been advertising in the *Post* during the past week for appointments. All have the Apothecaries' Hall qualifications, and some have had experience in nursing and minor surgery.

As already hinted in the *C. & D.*, the disappearance of the London lady doctor is having a malign influence. A rule has been adopted at the Birmingham Children's Hospital which tends to exclude all lady doctors in the future, for it requires them to possess the F.R.C.S. qualification. The lady physicians at present on the staff—Miss Annie Clarke, M.D.Lond., and Miss A. Sturge, M.S.Lond.—have sent a vigorous protest to the Board of Management, who referred the whole matter back to the Medical Board. At the same meeting it was stated that the average weekly cost of maintenance for patients was 2s 11d. and for officers 6s. 6d.

Perfumery at Auction.

On October 13, at 295 Kennington Cross, S.E., the stock-in-trade and materials of the business formerly carried on by Mr. J. Busch, wholesale and export manufacturing perfumer, were sold by public auction. There were 239 lots, and all were sold without reserve. The auctioneer regretted to announce that during the "view" earlier in the day some one had been wicked enough to appropriate without payment a 2-oz. tin of ambergris "worth about 5/." The sale was divided into three sections—empty glass bottles; chemicals, extracts, and essences; and lastly finished goods. The attendance was very small, and the majority of the bidders were general dealers. Many of the bottles were without stoppers. In all there were over 30 000 glass bottles (some with cut-glass stoppers), glass pomade-jars, &c., the whole fetching between 60/ and 70/. In the second section, a large bottle of elder-flower water was sold for 9s.; a 2-gal. jar of cassie 33s.; 2½ gals.

tuberoses 36s.; and another, the same quantity, 28s.; a 3 gal. jar of violette realised 2l. 7s. 6d.; and another 2½ gals. violette 2l. 4s. A Griffin's patent emulsifier (4½ gals. capacity) brought 32s., after starting at "a bob." The chemicals, extracts, and essences included "citron acid," 12 oz., 3s. 6d.; eau de portugal, eau de thyme, storax, &c., twelve 4-oz. bottles, 7s. The same quantity of extract of opoponax, petit grain, vervine, &c., 9s. Twelve 4-oz. bottles eau de Florida 7s.; 16 oz. eau de quinine 2s. 9d. Three 4-oz. cidre de Florida, one 4-oz. linalol, and ¾ lb. essence of bergamot, 9s. Seventeen 4-oz. bottles patchouli, &c., 7s. The sum of 16s. was realised for "2-lb bottle essence lavender, 2 lb. citronette, and 2 lb. essence lavender 'Mont Blanc.'" The sale also included tinctures of castor, cinnamon, and ambrette; tins of baume du peron, romain français, thyme blanc, essence d'origan, noix muscades; but the whole stock of these articles only realised under 7l. Four lbs. Siam benzoin 11s., five packets best white wax 12s., and a packet of Tonquin beans and ½ lb. vanilla-pods 7s., 10 lbs. beeswax 9s., 14 lbs. jasmin-pomade 9s., 10 lbs. rose-pomade 13s., 28 lbs. violette-pomade 17s., 28 lbs. tuberoses-pomade 18s., 10 lbs. cassie-pomade 19s. The finished goods were offered as "assorted perfumes," and classified according to the price formerly charged by the maker to the trade. They realised 4s. 6d. to 5s. a dozen for the 1s. 6d. size, 3s. 6d. to 4s. a dozen the 1s. size, 3s. a dozen the 9d. size, and 20s. for a gross of 4½ d. size. In all, of various sizes, there were about one hundred and fifty dozen done up in various-shaped bottles. Sixty pounds of fancy scent-labels (no name) sold for 4l. 12s., and two nests of twenty-four drawers realised 15s. and 14s. respectively. One lot of 837 sample-bottles went for 2s., and 1,032 1-oz. smelling-salts bottles for 7s. The total realised by the sale was between 150l. and 160l.

Abortion Cases.

At Middlesbrough on October 5, a Coroner's jury found that Mrs. Ethel Carlile, an actress, died from the effects of an irritant poison, the exact nature of which could not be ascertained (see *C. & D.*, September 26, page 525). Mrs. Mary Hargreaves, a Batley herbalist, who had supplied Mrs. Carlile with a mixture of herbs, was told by the Coroner that she had had a narrow escape of being committed for trial on a serious charge.

The adjourned inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Mrs. Ellen Singleton (36) was resumed at Newark Hospital, on October 9. The evidence previously taken showed a divergence of opinion amongst the medical men who had had the case in hand as to the cause of death. A fresh witness was called in Bertie Singleton, son of the deceased, aged eleven, who said that he had since May last once or twice a week fetched pennyworths of laudanum and white diachylon from Newark chemists for his mother. She had used the white diachylon to make up into pills. Dr. H. P. Job, who conducted the *post-mortem* examination in the presence of Dr. Kinmont, Dr. Lowe, Dr. Hine, Dr. Stallard, and Dr. Appleby, said, as a result of the examination and an analysis of the viscera and contents, he thought there was no doubt whatever that the case was one of lead-poisoning. All the organs were impregnated with lead, and the total quantity recovered by analysis was 12 gr. In conjunction with Dr. Jacob, the analyst had microscopically examined the tissue, and found evidence of recent pregnancy. The diachylon would produce lead-poisoning if taken as described by the boy Singleton. It had evidently been taken to procure abortion. Dr. Kinmont also gave evidence, and eventually the jury found that deceased died from lead-poisoning, self-administered with a view to procure abortion.

An Assistant's Suicide.

Mr. Horace Brown, an assistant at the pharmacy of Mr. J. Hewlett (Baily & Co.), Ethelbert Road, Margate, committed suicide on October 8 by taking strychnine. Mr. Brown, who was a son of Mr. G. F. Brown, J.P., ex-Mayor of Margate, was a young man of studious and reserved disposition. He was found in the lavatory adjoining the shop with two bottles of strychnine by his side. Mr. Hewlett immediately administered an antidote, and the stomach-pump was used, but death ensued in a short time. At the inquest on October 9 a verdict of suicide during temporary insanity was returned.

The Drug-habit.

At Fulham, on October 13, Mr. Ingleby Oddie, Deputy-Coroner, held an inquiry concerning the death of Mr. James Harward de Rinzy (59), a professor of languages, late of 2 Ormiston Road, Shepherd's Bush, who died in Fulham Infirmary. The widow stated that deceased was formerly a civil engineer in India, and for many years had been addicted to the morphine-habit. Sixteen years ago he suffered from gastralgia when in Melbourne, and two French doctors attended him and injected morphine three times every day for two years. When the pain returned the doctors said deceased would have to have injections again, although he himself objected. At one time he gave the habit up, but afterwards had recurrence to it, and since then he used to hypodermically inject the drug himself. He bought it in powder form and dissolved it himself, and witness had begged several chemists in Uxbridge Road not to serve him, and she knew that two of them would not do so. He made 5 gr. last two days, but on other days he used to take 10 gr. of cocaine. He suffered terribly from insomnia, and she had known him only to have three hours' sleep in the course of several weeks. Lately he had taken cannabis indica, which a chemist recommended to him, after which he had unpleasant hallucinations, became violent, and threatened to take her life. Eventually he was removed to the infirmary, where he died. At one time he was a medical student at Dublin. Dr. C. T. Parsons, the medical superintendent, said the deceased was admitted suffering from the effects of cannabis-indica poisoning. He recovered somewhat, so far as to refuse an offer of the drug. Witness had made a *post-mortem* examination, and found the whole body, from the neck down to the ankles, with the exception of the back, covered with minute scars through the use of a hypodermic syringe. Death was due to syncope from heart-disease, accelerated by the use of alcohol and the excessive use of morphine, cocaine, and other drugs. The Coroner said it was a most reprehensible thing for doctors to have given the deceased morphine injections daily for two years, as the dangers were so well known, and their indiscretion was no doubt the cause of the man continuing the habit which indirectly resulted in his death.

The Week's Poisonings.

Only one of the twelve poisonings reported during the week could be attributed to misadventure, the others were apparently deliberate suicides. Three cases of oxalic-acid poisoning are recorded—at Withington, where it was taken by the wife of Major George Westley Richards; at Dawlish, where an old soldier named Caseley drank a solution from an aerated-water bottle; and at Camberwell, where it was taken by a horse-keeper named Pickford. Carbolic acid caused the death of Maria Fell, a Louth widow, and of an old lady named Lane, who lived in Westminster. Mr. Richard Percy Halliday, a Leeds surgeon, poisoned himself with prussic acid; and a young woman named Derbyshire, of Bourneville, took a fatal dose of laudanum. Mrs. Emily Maud Looker, who was staying with a doctor's wife at Richmond, went into the surgery one night, secured a bottle of liquor arsenicalis, drank a considerable quantity, and died. The strychnine-poisoning case at Margate and the morphomaniac's death at Fulham are each recorded elsewhere. The two remaining deaths were in each case the result of "overdose of medicine." Louisa Pottage, a Leamington widow, suffered from gout, for which she took a large number of pills. She was found dead in her room, and a *post-mortem* showed that she had taken an excessive amount of medicine. A gentleman staying at a Dorking hotel sent a prescription to a local chemist. The medicine was made up, and two hours later the man was found dead in bed. The medicine-bottle was found nearly empty, and the man had evidently swallowed ten doses of the mixture at once.

ACCORDING to the report of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce for 1902, the consumption of oxygen in Germany has increased considerably, because it is now employed largely for fusing large masses of iron.

DO YOU KNOW?—THE 1904 CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY is being looked forward to with particular interest by the trade on account of the very valuable information it will contain about the new interpretation of the Medicine-stamp Acts. It will be the most popular DIARY we have ever published. If your subscription is expiring, renew promptly, so as to get the DIARY.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

At the recent Preliminary Examination the following were the successful candidates: W. T. MacConnell, C. V. Bolton, R. Gubbins, W. J. Stevenson, J. Hall, T. Montgomery, D. O. McKinney, and A. F. White. Seven candidates were rejected.

The Lords Justices and Privy Council in Ireland have approved of the following regulation made under the Irish Pharmacy Acts: "That the Preliminary examinations shall be held on the first Thursday and following day in January, April, July, and October, instead of on the first Tuesday and following day."

Great satisfaction is felt in Belfast at the appointment of Mr. Johnstone Montgomery, of the firm of Messrs. C. & J. Montgomery, chemists and druggists, Royal Avenue, Belfast, to the Presidency of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. This is the first occasion on which a provincial chemist has had the compliment conferred upon him.

Dispenser's Salary Increased.

At the meeting of the Limerick Guardians, on October 7, the salary of Mr. John McMahon, the Union dispenser, was increased from 80% to 100%.

Personal.

Mr. W. H. Howe, not Howse, is the name of the Pharmaceutical Society's gold medallist.

Mr. Charles J. B. Dunlop, M.P.S.I., Merrin's Medical Hall, Dublin, has passed the first professional examination in medicine of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Ireland.

Mr. John Lewis, pharmaceutical chemist, Skibbereen, co. Cork, was last week elected to fill one of the vacancies in the Freshwater electoral division of the Skibbereen Fishery Conservators.

Shifting the Responsibility.

At the Newry quarter sessions, Mr. Charles O'Hagan, pharmaceutical chemist, Hall Street, Newry, was awarded 5% 7s. 6d., the full amount claimed, with costs, for the destruction of a glass panel in his shop during the disturbances in the town last July. There were a number of other claims by local traders, some of whom stated that their windows were insured, but they were compelled, according to an agreement with the insurance company, to come into Court to claim the amounts. The Judge said it was a perfect outrage that insurance companies should come into Court in this way and seek to put their liabilities on the shoulders of the ratepayers.

Death in a Chemist's Shop.

On October 12, Coroner Peel held an inquest at Keady touching the sudden death of a girl named Florrie Rainey. The mother of the deceased stated that Mrs. Procter, wife of Mr. Procter, manager of Mr. Berney's drug hall, came and told her that her daughter had fainted in the shop, and witness went to her at once. Mr. Procter met her at the door and told her that her daughter was dead. He said he had given her something to revive her. The inquiry was adjourned to enable an analysis of the contents of the girl's stomach to be made.

Photographic Activity.

The opening meeting of the session of the Photographic Society of Ireland was held in Dublin on October 9. Dr. Joly (the President), in his annual address, reviewed the year's progress, referring particularly to the electrical manifestations caused by the action of light on silver salts.

At the first meeting of the Ulster Amateur Photographic Society, held at Belfast on October 12, a demonstration was given of the Brooks-Watson "Rajar" film and plate system, and samples of Burroughs Wellcome & Co.'s tabloid developers were distributed amongst the members.

Guardians' Doings.

Complaint was made at last week's meeting of the Newry Guardians that the scales supplied to the dispensary were not stamped with the name of "Avery," and that an inadequate quantity of cod-liver oil was sent by the drug-contractor. The last-named, in a letter of explanation, said the scales were stamped with the name of Messrs. Avery's "foreman director," and that cod-liver oil is so scarce as to be practically unobtainable in quantity.

What is an Apothecary?

The Guardians of the Belfast Union recently advertised for a "legally qualified apothecary" for the workhouse, at a salary of 80% per annum, with first-class rations and apartments. This matter came to the notice of the Belfast chemists, and a deputation waited on the Chairman of the Guardians pointing out that it was really a pharmaceutical chemist that was wanted as dispenser. The Guardians, in consequence of the recommendations of the Chairman, altered the form of the advertisement.

At the meeting of the Guardians on October 13, for the appointment of a pharmaceutical chemist, it transpired that there were five applicants for the position, but only four presented themselves. When the time for making the appointment was reached, the Chairman (Mr. J. S. Oswald), said: Bring in the apothecaries—oh, there are no apothecaries; bring in those pharmaceutical chemists. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Macarthur said he would like to hear the terms of the advertisement.

Some discussion then took place as to the wording of the advertisement.

The Chairman: The advertisement states that the person to be appointed shall devote his whole time to the duties of the office. I must take exception to the word "apothecary." There is only one apothecary in Belfast, and that is our old friend in the Town Hall, Dr. Whitaker.

Dr. Ritchie: I beg your pardon; I am an apothecary.

The Chairman: It is a pharmaceutical chemist that is wanted here. These gentlemen are not apothecaries. An apothecary is a man who does half the duties of a doctor. (Laughter.)

Dr. Ritchie: We have advertised for an apothecary; instead of that it is a pharmaceutical chemist we want.

The Chairman: An apothecary under the old Act ought to bleed people. In addition they used to attend midwifery cases, the same as a doctor.

When it came to voting for the candidates, Mr. Macarthur and Dr. Macintosh declined to vote, as the terms of the advertisement had not been complied with.

Eventually Mr. James Patton was elected to the position by twenty-three votes to thirteen. The Chairman, on informing Mr. Patton of his appointment, said: "You must devote your whole time to the duties of the office; you must not study medicine as a doctor."

Dr. Ritchie: He can study what he likes if he does his duty.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Fire.

An outbreak of fire took place on October 9 in the shop of Mr. William Speid, chemist, Fettercairn, but the flames were subdued before any great damage was done.

A Laboratory for Dundee Poorhouse.

Dr. McVicar, visiting medical officer of Dundee Poorhouses, wants the Parish Council to equip a laboratory on a small scale for the East Poorhouse Hospital. He apparently means one for pathological work, and there is some good-humoured chaff locally about his statement that the laboratory would be a means of reducing the number of patients long resident and the expenditure would prove in the long run economical.

Glasgow Notes.

The Chemists' Assistants' Association are busy preparing for the winter campaign.

The Inland Revenue men are scouting in the neighbourhood, and have made a few undesirable purchases.

Mr. J. F. Tocher (Peterhead) is to address the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association in December on "Territorial Representation."

The city bacteriological laboratory is now largely used by the medical profession. It is said that 65 per cent. of the general practitioners within the municipal area are in touch with the laboratory.

There is a slight improvement in business. Several chemists who stock photographic goods are trying "end of the season sales." Cash registers are becoming a feature even in suburban pharmacies.

The question of dispensing by parish doctors, raised by Mr. D. S. Robertson at the annual meeting of the G. & W. of S. Pharmaceutical Association, is likely to be carried further at the next parish council elections.

Our old friend "Chemicus" writing to the *Evening News* asks for "information on the subject of chemists' assistants' associations in this city." He would be pleased to hear of an association for assistants "if such exists." Does "Chemicus" write "sarkastik"?

Mr. Andrew Lang in a letter to the *Glasgow Herald* reports the discovery of a Highland magic stone similar to those at present in use amongst the Malays and Australian aborigines. "The stones are immersed in water, and the water is rubbed on the patient's body as a universal remedy." The great American medicine-man, with his cosmic cure-all, may now "pale his ineffectual fires." Mr. Frazer, formerly of Glasgow, gives a good account of these stones in his "Golden Bough."

A leading Glasgow chemist has for many years consistently accommodated his employees by arranging "part-time cribs" for them so that they can attend classes. For these concessions he is rewarded by results. During the past three years six of his assistants, one after the other, have gone up for their Minor, and every one of them has passed at the first attempt—a remarkable fact when the percentage of failures is considered, also that the great majority of students cease work altogether while studying. The advantages in the way of dispensing experience are doubtless a considerable factor in the sequence of successes, which is a "record."

Edinburgh Notes.

In the Heriot-Watt College Department of Pharmaceutics, Mr. William Duncan, Ph.C., F.C.S., commenced, on Wednesday evening, October 7, a course of lectures on "Pharmaceutical Materia Medica." The course includes the description and recognition of all the official and the important non-official drugs; their botanical or zoological and geographical sources, collection, preservation, and preparation for the market; likely adulterants or impurities and means of detection of such; active principles and methods of isolating the more important. The lecture-fee for the Session is only 5s.

There is at present in bloom in one of the greenhouses at the Botanic Gardens a plant of the verbena order, remarkable on account of its changeable flowers. It is a climbing plant, *Lantana Camara*, from South Brazil; its little tubular flowers are grouped in flat, compact clusters or umbels, and when they first open are of a delicate lemon-yellow colour, but in a day's time change to dark red. In the same greenhouse is another variety, *Lantana hybrida*. Its flowers are also yellow at first, but change to white. The change, according to Fritz Müller, takes place when the flower has been fertilised by insects, who do not visit the flowers again when they see the change of colour. *Lantana*-leaves have sometimes been used as a substitute for tea.

DURING the twelve months ending June 1, 1903, imports of drugs, dyes, chemicals, and medicines into Canada amounted to \$5,892,000, against \$5,447,000 during the corresponding period of 1901-2.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

SUICIDE OF A PHARMACY STUDENT.—Last Monday afternoon a pharmacy student named Marcel Cormin committed suicide by shooting himself in the chest at 29 Quai de la Mégisserie, Paris, where he lodged. He was conveyed in a dying condition to the Charity Hospital. It is supposed that he acted under the influence of despair through having recently failed in an examination. He was twenty years of age.

LADY PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS.—The following official figures are interesting as giving the proportion of lady students (1) in each university, (2) in the pharmacy-branch of each university. All the lady pharmacy-students are given as Frenchwomen, except one Swede at Grenoble:

	Total		Pharmaceutical	
	Students	Ladies	Students	Ladies
Lyons	2,629	119	273	4
Bordeaux	2,204	58	237	1
Toulouse	2,040	33	189	3
Montpellier	1,680	122	213	6
Rennes	1,223	30	113	2
Nancy	1,192	9	67	Nil
Lille	1,068	51	153	4
Marseilles	1,059	66	208	1
Poitiers	905	4	42	Nil
Dijon	792	50	44	2
Caen	732	27	53	Nil
Grenoble	709	48	51	2
Besançon	318	5	42	3
Clermont - Ferrand	298	5	59	3
Alger	—	—	58	1

TWO OF THE LATEST SWINDLERS in Paris work on dental and pharmaceutical lines. The first is a well-dressed young female, who calls on dentists stating she has been recommended by a friend or client, and, after giving a big order for "repairs," borrows an amount equal to a few pounds on the plea that she has to pay a cab-fare or has forgotten her purse. She always gives her address, but her victims invariably find it incorrect. The other swindler who is wanted is a tall man of forty. He steps into the servants' quarters of houses when the house-porter is out of the way and knocks at the kitchen-door. "Has not your master ordered some medicine at X—'s pharmacy?" he asks, naming a chemist near by. "I don't know; I'll go and ask," is the servant's usual reply. When she returns any small portable articles lying about the kitchen are mislaid—notably, of course, her purse, if it is anywhere within reach. It is said that this enterprising swindler walked off with a leg of mutton which had been cooked for a family's dinner the other day, merely covering it with a newspaper. The neighbouring pharmacist whose name the man had given was astounded to see an infuriated virago rush into his shop in the form of a red-faced cook, who accused the pharmacist of stealing the leg of mutton. The unreasoning woman did not stop to think she had been the victim of a sharper.

OUR PARIS BROTHER (outside the cosmopolitan and hotel centres) does not make that wonderful window and counter-case display of patents which is so characteristic of the modern London "drug-stores." Yet he has changed his modes of thought since the halcyon days of fifty years ago, and should you ask him for any fairly well-known patent, his unobtrusive cupboards and drawers may usually be relied upon to produce the required article. And anyone who has followed French pharmacy during the last fifteen years will know he is in no danger of being "displaced" by the chemists' shops of John Bull and Jonathan. In fact, I believe the number of English chemists in business for themselves in Paris is actually less than it was thirty or forty years ago; and as to Americans, I only know one who claims U.S. citizenship keeping open shop here. The pharmacies round the

Vendôme column and in the Anglo-American quarter generally have often a very British look, but anyone "in the know" is perfectly aware that it is just a sign of the present-day French pharmacist's business adaptability, and that these are French or other proprietors laying their nets for the unwary tourist. While remembering the American philosopher's axiom, "Never prophesy unless you know," I fancy we shall few of us live to see the day when the Anglo-Saxon will reign supreme in Paris pharmacy. Were the latter allowed to open shop without passing the School of Pharmacy examinations, such a state of things might come about. And although "fools rush in where angels fear to tread," one might possibly hunt for some time in modern Paris for a shop containing but the essentials for filling metrical prescriptions and semi-surgical articles.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa. viz. :—

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.
NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
RHODESIA PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
NORTHERN DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

PERSONAL.—Mr. T. W. Surman, representing Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, London, is making an extended tour through South Africa with a magnificent set of samples. The journey opened very auspiciously at Cape Town.

TRANSVAAL ITEMS.—Mr. W. Raworth, chemist and druggist, Pretoria, has opened a branch pharmacy at Sunnyside, at the corner of Troye and Esselin Streets. The fittings are the work of a local firm, Messrs. Porter & Thompson. The newly established business of Mr. M. Schapiro at Krugersdorp has been taken over by Messrs. Loewenstein (Limited), Johannesburg. Mr. Alexander Freidman will shortly open a high-class pharmacy in Commissioner Street, near End Street Corner, Johannesburg. Competition in the wholesale drug-trade is becoming very keen in Johannesburg. One of the leading houses has recently been offering drugs and patents at 5 per cent. below the usual current rates. It is anticipated that the Labour Commission will have finished its lengthy sitting in about a week's time, so we can look forward, says our Johannesburg correspondent, to an early pronouncement on the question of Chinese labour. Messrs. P. J. Petersen & Co. had a narrow escape of having their stores gutted by fire a few nights ago, but the prompt assistance of the fire-brigade prevented a serious disaster. A scheme is on foot to establish several public dispensaries in various quarters of Johannesburg for poor people.

NATAL NOTES.—Our correspondent in Natal, writing on September 19, says: The drug-business in Durban carried on for many years under the style of Messrs. R. Raw & Co., has changed hands, the purchasers being Messrs. W. R. Pimm & Co., who have also a business at Stamford Hill, Durban. One of the results of the new Customs Tariff has been to raise the retail price of American patent medicines, German eau-de-Cologne, and other foreign goods. The Natal Minister of Agriculture stated in the House of Assembly that an outbreak of "Rhodesian red-water" had occurred amongst some cattle near the town of Wakker-troom, Transvaal, and that Natal, fortunately, still enjoys immunity from the disease. The Government were taking every precaution to protect Natal from an invasion of this terrible scourge. We understand that the disease is seriously affecting the gold-mining industry in the north-eastern part of the Transvaal. Owing to the roads being closed to ox-wagon traffic, food has reached famine prices, mealies being five pounds sterling per bag. It is feared that the Glynn's, Lydenburg, and Transvaal Mining Estates mines will have to be closed down, and that work on several other properties will have to be suspended.

East Indian News.

THE ANGLO-INDIAN DRUG AND CHEMICAL COMPANY, wholesale druggists, have started in business at 16 Market, Bombay.

MR. E. W. PALIN, representing Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, Messrs. Arnold & Sons, Messrs. Barclay & Sons (Limited), was busy in Bombay when the mail left.

INDIAN TURPENTINE.—A start was made last year with the experimental distillation of turpentine in the Chin Hills, samples being submitted to the chemical examiner to Government, who reports the article to be of exceptional quality.

AN ASSISTANT IMPRISONED.—At Bombay, on September 9, Fred Alan Chambers, employed as a chemist in charge of the laboratory of Messrs. Treacher & Co. (Limited), wholesale druggists, Bombay, was sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment for stealing various articles to the total value of Rs. 945, the property of his employers. Accused's pay was Rs. 200 a month.

A NEW COMPETITOR.—The chemist at home with his stores axe to grind will be interested to read of the competition his *confrère* in India has to face. Some time since, quotations for a very large supply of quinine pills were asked for from chemists in one of the presidency towns. Nothing further being heard, an inquiry was sent in, eliciting the following reply:

We have the honour to inform you that we cannot accept your offer the quotation of the Superintendent, Central Prison, —, being much more favourable.

Can it help being otherwise with no labour to pay, no taxes, no shop-rent, no establishment charges?

KEMP & CO. (LIMITED).—The annual general meeting of shareholders was held in Bombay on September 17, Sir Harkisondas Narotamdas presiding. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the directors' report (*C. & D.*, September 26, page 527), said he was pleased to be able to lay before them a report that showed they were in a better position than they were last year. He attributed this success to the loyal endeavours of their assistants to further the interests of the company; to the fact that they confined themselves to the high-class English chemists' trade, and had seven European diplomaed chemists to superintend all the work; to the fact that the heads of departments had the interests of the company at heart and worked with a will to further these interests; and to the supervision of the directors. The Chairman made a strong point of qualified men, as they knew, he said, an impression was abroad that they could not compete with European houses as their men had not had the necessary training. This the Chairman emphatically denied, as Kemp's chemists had all had European training, with the addition of a perfect knowledge of the requirements of Indian customers. The Prescriber's Pharmacopoeia, a synopsis of everything recent in medicine and pharmacy, was now in its fifth edition and was practically accepted as a standard work in India. It took the best part of a year to properly edit it, and it had been reviewed very favourably all over the world. During the year the Apollo Hotel branch was vacated and new premises were secured at the Taj Mahal Hotel, where they had made what they claimed to be the smartest pharmacy on that side of India. The directors had arranged that the financial year should end on March 31 instead of on June 30, so that the next balance-sheet would be for nine months only. The Chairman concluded by referring in sympathetic terms to the death of Dr. Thomas Blaney. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shapurji B. Katrak, who said thanks were due to the general manager, Mr. Alfred Pell. The adoption of the report and the declaration of dividends were unanimously adopted, and it was further unanimously agreed that a bonus of Rs. 3,700 be paid to the staff of the company.

CURED TOO SOON.—Doctor (angrily): "You put in something that wasn't ordered in the prescription, and now the patient is quite well." Chemist: "Well, then, write your prescriptions so that they can be read."

Colonial and Foreign News.

A LARGE PLANT for manufacturing liquor and anhydrous ammonia is being erected at St. Louis, Mo., by the National Ammonia Company, which already has three extensive works in that city. The intention is to discontinue operations at the older plants as soon as the new one is completed.

FOREIGN I.R. GOODS.—The Association of German india-rubber goods manufacturers decided, at a meeting held on October 2 at Hanover, like English manufacturers, to make a further advance of 10 per cent. in the prices of all india-rubber goods from October 10. A previous increase of 10 per cent. was made in April.

SULPHURIC ACID IN GERMANY.—The report of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce states that the price of sulphuric acid declined in Germany in 1902, although there was temporarily a more active demand for various grades. The fear of manufacturers of acid by the chamber process, that they would suffer greatly from the competition of the new factories employing the contact process, has proved to be exaggerated.

TRAVELLING OPIUM COMMISSION.—A commission from the Philippines has been appointed to visit Japan, Formosa, Shanghai, Hong-Kong, Singapore, Java, and Burmah, to ascertain the methods of regulating and controlling the use of opium. It may be remembered that the authorities in the Philippines recently drafted a Bill for the regulation of the local opium traffic, at which the anti-opiumists in the United States raised a great outcry.

SALICYLIC-ACID FEEDING.—On October 13 twelve young clerks in the service of the Government at Washington began a diet of fare containing salicylic acid at Dr. Wiley's official café at the Bureau of Chemistry. Like the previous tests with boric acid, the object of the experiment is to ascertain the truth about the alleged harmfulness of food so preserved. The clerks will be given three salicylic meals a day, and the tests will continue for eight months.

AN AUSTRALIAN CHEMIST'S DEATH.—On September 8 an inquest was held at Melbourne (Vic.) on the body of Mr. Frank Davenport, chemist, late of Collins Street, Melbourne. Mr. Davenport recently sold his business to Mr. H. A. Woolnough (Bowen & Co.) for 3200%, and the widow stated that he had been in a depressed state of mind since he parted with the business. The evidence could throw no light on the cause of death.

THE UNION OF GERMAN MINERAL-WATER MANUFACTURERS held its general meeting at Hanover last month. The business discussed included a statement by the President (Dr. Lohmann, Berlin) that the Government had as yet refused to agree to the introduction of a law dealing with mineral-water bottles. A motion was therefore carried to petition the Chancellor of the Empire to pass such a law. It was further decided to take energetic measures against cork-manufacturers, who are agitating against the use of patent stoppers, and also to take steps to procure for the owners of mineral-water factories in Saxony the right of free inspection of their works, already accorded to those in Prussia.

RUSSIAN NOTES.—According to the *Novostiam* of Vitebsk, the police have seized and confiscated in twenty chemists' shops a large quantity of colours used for confectionery. In times past, such goods were obtained from Paris: now they are bought 25 per cent. cheaper on the spot.—The St. Petersburg Medical Council is elaborating a scheme for fixing a minimum standard for vinegar. Attention is also being directed to the red colouring-matter of vinegar, which many analyses have proved to be injurious to health. Acetic acid may only be sold by chemists and on a physician's order.—A company will shortly be formed in St. Petersburg to manufacture and carry on a wholesale pharmaceutical business. Many local chemists have given their support to the scheme. The idea is to reduce the price of chemicals at present imported from abroad. The new company will have its own laboratory where the chemicals will be produced. No retail business will be done.

Personalities.

MR. J. TAYLOR, J.P., chemist and druggist, of 15 Lucius Street, Torquay, has been invited, and consented, to retain the mayoralty of the borough for another year.

MR. W. H. HOOTON, chemist and druggist, has been appointed resident dispenser to the New Croydon Mental Hospital, Warlingham, Surrey.

MR. CHARLES SPENCER (W. M. 1303), chemist and druggist, desires to thank all those who supported his son's candidature for the Royal Masonic Institution. The boy was elected with 4,166 votes.

MR. T. W. ROBSON, pharmaceutical chemist, who has been with Mr. J. Hinton Lake, of Exeter, for twenty years, and is now manager of his Tiverton pharmacy, is owing to poor health taking a trip to South Africa and India.

MR. A. J. FIRKENS, Australian representative of Messrs. Allen & Hanburys (Limited), sailed by the *Cedric* for New York on Wednesday. He is returning by U.S.A. and Canada to his duties "down under" after a pleasant holiday at home.

THE installation of the Worshipful Master-Elect of the Royal Somerset Lodge, No. 973, Bro. Edmund C. F. Green, S.W., chemist and druggist, Frome, took place on October 8. The banquet was held at the George Hotel, Frome, after the ceremony.

MR. THOMAS KNIGHT, 20 Wheelergate, Nottingham, informs us that the case Vickerstaff v. Knight, reported in our last issue, had nothing to do with his business at Wheelergate, but was solely concerned with a trust property in which he is personally interested, the executors being responsible to him for the claim.

MR. J. FLINTON HARRIS, pharmaceutical chemist, assistant to Mr. F. Kirby, chemist, Abington Street, and Railway Road, Northampton, and a member of the Northampton and District Chemists' Association, has been appointed Instructor in Photography for the Technical Classes at the Northampton and County Modern and Technical School.

MR. H. O. BECK, the late manager for "Odol," is, we understand, to look after the interests of Messrs. Lever Brothers (Limited) in Germany. The Odol Chemical Works intimate that Mr. H. O. Beck, who has hitherto been a director of the company, retired on October 1, and the management is now undertaken jointly by Messrs. W. C. Rossberg and C. H. Sigle.

MR. VICTOR SAY, of Barella, Vic., left Liverpool on October 15 for Melbourne, *via* Cape Town. Mr. Say has seen a good deal of the Old Country during the summer, and although business formed no part of his trip he has been able to form the opinion that Victorian pharmacies are as good looking as those at home. He thinks those of Edinburgh are the trimmest in the country, as far as he could judge by the windows.

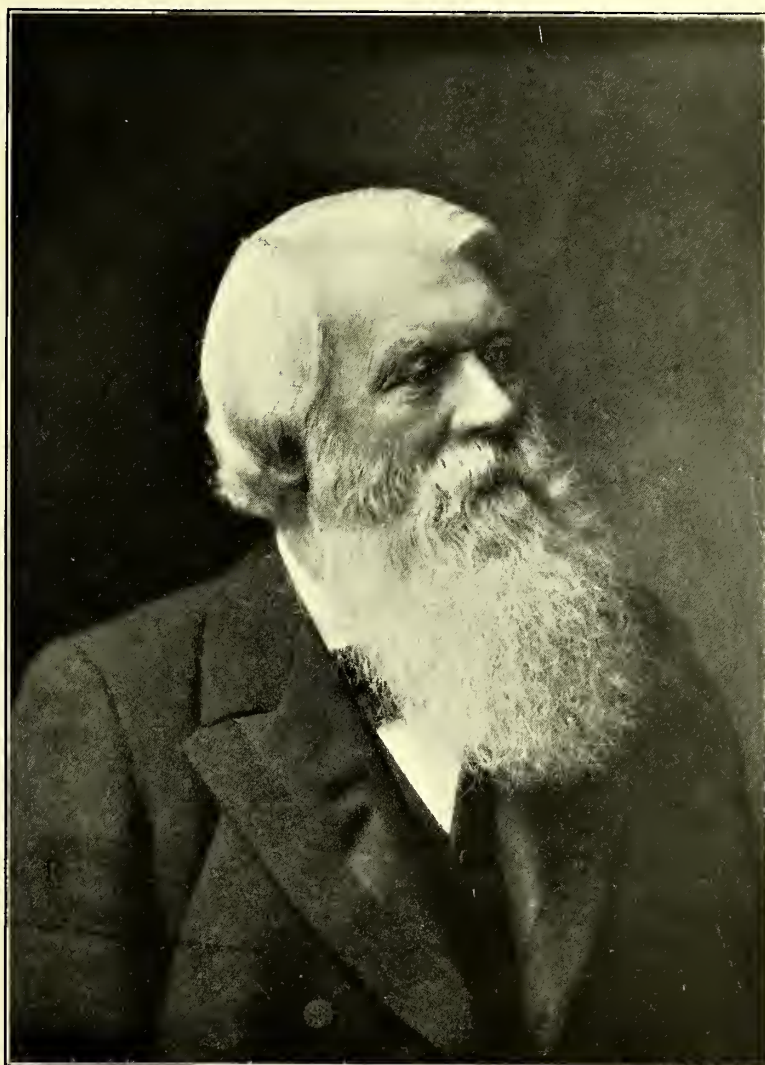
MR. A. DELACRE, Pharmacien, Ancien Juge au Tribunal de Commerce, of Brussels, has been spending a short holiday in England, and called at THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST office before he returned. Mr. Delacre informed us that a determined attempt is being made by Belgian pharmacists to stop the cutting evil, which has reached rather an acute stage, especially in the capital, and there is some promise of success in the endeavour.

HENRY MOUNTENEY, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Wellcome, was christened with water from the river Jordan at St. Michael's Church, Chester Square, on October 10, the Ven. Archdeacon Burney officiating. Sir Henry M. Stanley and Mr. A. J. Mounteney Jephson were godfathers, and Mrs. Foster (the wife of Gen. John W. Foster, ex-Secretary of State, and now agent for the United States at the Alaskan Boundary Commission) was godmother. A reception of the immediate friends and relations was subsequently held at Claridge's Hotel.

IN recognition of the able manner in which Councillor Goddard Clarke, J.P., L.C.C. (of Potter & Clarke, wholesale druggists, Artillery Lane, E.C.), has occupied the mayoral



The William Martindale Memorial.



Joseph Wilson Swan, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

da's of Camberwell during the closing municipal year, the aldermen and councillors of the borough have unanimously decided to mark their appreciation of his work by entertaining him at a dinner at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. The dinner, which is to be followed by a musical entertainment, has been arranged to take place on Monday, October 19, and it is expected that practically the whole of the Council and its chief officers will be present on the occasion.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. F. NEWBERRY & SONS, Charterhouse Square, E.C., have been appointed sole London representatives for Messrs. Ellis & Goltzman's throat and nasal sprays and vaginal douches.

BETTELEUCUTE has brought the proprietors (Messrs. Valls & Co.) a medal from the Royal Horticultural Society. It is a good thing for the insects that infest greenhouses and the like, hence the Society's practical appreciation.

MESSRS. BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co, Coleman Street, E.C., have issued a catalogue of photographic chemicals, cameras, and all accessories which extends to 86 pp. including a large sheaf of attractive advertisements. A copy of the catalogue will be sent to any of our subscribers who apply for it.

A NEAT DEVICE.—Messrs. Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., of Manchester, are issuing a useful little bookmark which serves the double purpose of pleasing the studious customer and advertising the firm's proprietaries. The mark is made of celluloid, flesh-coloured, and is in the shape of a miniature hand with finger pointing downwards. It is neat and effective.

AT THE BREWERS'.—Pharmaceutical visitors to the Brewers' Exhibition, to be held in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, next week, will have an opportunity of inspecting a hydraulic testing-apparatus (capable of pressing up to two tons the square inch) in operation at the stall of Messrs. Idris & Co. (Limited) in Bay 22. The apparatus is used in testing the company's Bohemian crystal glass vases to breaking-point, while tests of various syphon parts will also be shown.

"ENSIGN" VIDIL-FILMS.—These films are being introduced by Geo. Houghton & Son (Limited), 88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C. The "Ensign" vidil-films are a departure from the older methods of packing roll-films. Each film is separately attached to the backing-paper, and between each sensitive film there is a translucent portion which can be used as a focussing-screen. The films are in triangular metal cases, and are adapted for daylight loading. Photographic chemists should write for particulars, as it is intended to push the sale of the films by offers to amateurs of free samples.

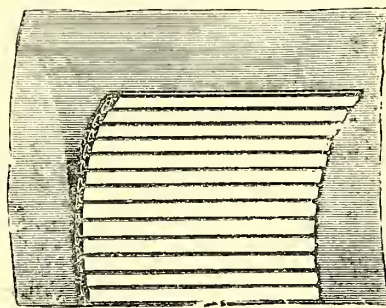
THE OCTOBER MARTINDALE.—The monthly issues of the price-list of Mr. W. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, W., generally contain something new. The October list has a full page of additions and alterations, and the back cover gives illustrated particulars of Martindale's oxygen apparatus (42s. each complete, tins of material for re-charging 3s. 6d. each), fixture cards and frames, triangular swabs, and a new dropping-tube for eye-solutions. Other new things include "Phorxal" (a blood, phosphorus, and iron preparation), radium button (for the treatment of lupus, cancer, &c.), and a further series of "Solubes."

THE "PRIMUS" LANTERNIST'S POCKET-BOOK FOR 1903 4 is published this week by Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, St. Bride Street, E.C. It contains a lot of information useful to lanternists. For example, two pages are devoted to the towns in the United Kingdom where there is a public electric current, with statements as to whether the supply is continuous or alternating, and the pressure at the consumers' terminals. There is also a directory of dealers in lanterns, besides writing-paper pages for diary and memoranda. The firm will send a copy of it to any C. & D. subscriber or lantern-assistant on receipt of two penny stamps.

"BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH".—Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons (Limited), of 75 Farringdon Road, E.C., have hit upon the

happy idea of reproducing the picture of this name, painted by Mr. Eyre Crowe, A.R.A., and exhibited in the Royal Academy in 1883. The original painting was acquired by Messrs. Kent, and lithographic reproductions have been printed on neat cards for the benefit of Messrs. Kent's customers, while an engraving of the picture is also published by the firm at 8½ 8s. for the artist's signed proofs. The engraving is not an advertisement, but the inference that "best British brushes" only are used by the six painters depicted is obvious. It may be added that for the first time in six years Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons are soliciting orders for toothbrushes, because their new factory is now in full swing; three floors are devoted to toothbrushes alone.

FOR PACKING PURPOSES.—The illustration here given shows a new style of paper-packing material just introduced by Messrs. W. B. Fordham & Sons (Limited), York Road, King's Cross, N. The novelty is a new form of corrugation—



whereby greater elasticity (and consequently less risk of breakage) is obtained. The paper is intended for bottle-wrapping, and is in two shapes—flat for rolling round the bottle, or square for fitting the bottle into. Samples particulars, and prices may be obtained by communicating with Messrs. Fordham.

Business Changes.

MR. L. MORGAN, chemist and druggist, is opening a pharmacy at 41 Clydach Road, Clydach Vale, Glam.

MESSRS. H. T. HAMILTON and J. C. BURTON, medical practitioners, Chilham and Chartham, Kent, have dissolved partnership.

MESSRS. MIDDLETON & Co. (LIMITED), chemists, Middlesborough, have bought the business of Anderson's Drug Company, Redcar.

MR. E. R. MOSS, chemist and druggist, of Derby, has purchased the chemist's department of the business of Mrs. Martin Ashburton.

MR. GEORGE H. ARIS, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business at 413 West Derby Road, Liverpool, formerly belonging to Mr. H. Oldham.

MR. THOMAS I. PRESTON, chemist and druggist, has opened new premises, The Oakwood Pharmacy, Roundhay, near Leeds, Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), Liverpool and London, supplying all the fittings.

MESSRS. BLUNT (LIMITED), chemists, have removed from the Parade, Northampton, to fine premises at 17 and 19 Abington Street, Northampton, in consequence of the Corporation of Northampton acquiring their old premises for important street improvements.

MESSRS. SPARKS, TREHARNE & SON, wholesale and export druggists, 12 Mitre Street, E.C., have admitted into partnership Mr. Frank Densham, who was for many years with Messrs. Anderson, Anderson & Co. The business will be conducted under the style of Messrs. Sparks, Treharne & Densham.

Winter Session.

West Ham Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Earlham Hall, Forest Gate, on October 8, Mr. Harold Mitchell occupying the chair. Among those present were Messrs. Barnes, Blades, Clarke, Cleland, Forbes, Gray, Greatrex, Gwinn, Henderson, Evans, Jones, C. A. Jones, Johnson, Reed, Savage, Skeates, Thomas, and White. After the minutes were approved, the SECRETARY read the correspondence, which referred mostly to

EARLY-CLOSING.

Mr. BLADES remarked that, as some of the correspondence referred to closing on Thursdays, he should like to say how pleased he was that this arrangement had been brought about, as it was the first time in his twenty years' experience that he had been able to enjoy an evening to himself. From a business point of view he had not found it interfere with either customers or receipts, but, on the contrary, the latter this year were better in comparison with the same period of last year, proving, he thought, that early-closing in no way interferes with business.

LOCAL TECHNICAL CLASSES.

The CHAIRMAN read a letter from Dr. Anden, head of the chemical department of the Technical Institute of West Ham, stating that a class had been formed affording students an opportunity for taking up work for such examinations as those of the Pharmaceutical Society and Apothecaries' Hall. As he had only had eight entries, he wrote asking if it was thought desirable to continue the classes. The Chairman thought that in a district such as West Ham eight entries was certainly encouraging. Mr. SOPER quite agreed with the Chairman, and moved that Dr. Anden be written to by the Secretary urging him to continue the classes, saying the members would do all in their power to make the classes a success. This was seconded by Mr. W. BARNES, and carried *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN then called upon Mr. WALTER FORBES to read his paper—

A RÉSUMÉ OF THE STAMP ACTS.

After a brief historical introduction the author considered the subject under three headings, viz.:

- (1) The Acts from the Inland Revenue standpoint and the changes in administration soon to take effect.
- (2) The administrative changes as they affect the chemist.
- (3) The changes as they affect the public.

From the Inland-revenue point of view the yield of the Medicine-stamp duty is a very great aid to the country's revenue, costing so little in collection that one cannot fail to admire the zealous manner in which the officers of the Revenue safeguard this tit-bit of the country's income. The country's interest in patent medicines has been protected by a long schedule of specially named liable articles, and by a general charge which is amply sufficient to encircle any medicine with duty where the makers, vendors, or proprietors claim proprietary rights, &c. (See THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1903, page 521.) Vindictiveness has never characterised the Revenue authorities in their administration of the Acts, and of late years their courtesy in giving advice on doubtful labels has lessened the prosecutions. The author explained how this came about in 1886.

Speaking under the second heading, Mr. Forbes called attention to the schedule to the 1812 Act, and explained the exemptions. In this connection he dealt with the Sanguinetti case and that through which Mr. Glyn-Jones obtained the powers of Exemption 3. In regard to the former, he said that judgment might not have been gained by the Inland-revenue authorities had they not, as the case developed, ignored the instructions long issued to their officers, which read:

The Board recognises the necessity that exists for giving a preparation such a designation or name as shall distinguish it from other medicines, and they do not attribute any further meaning to such words as cough-mixture, liver-pills, lip salve, teething-powders, corn-paint.

If the decision of the Sanguinetti case, with all that it has since entailed, had been a little longer with us before the decision in the Glyn-Jones case was given, it is safe to say the trade generally would have been thrown into gloom. Mr. Forbes then explained the principle involved in the Glyn-Jones case, and detailed the advantages which arise from it, emphasising that preparations upon which stamp-duty has lawfully been paid hitherto will not now be released from duty even by the declaration of formulae. Mr. Forbes concluded the case for the Revenue by reading letters that they have issued during the past three months.

As to the changes as they affect the chemist, he said chemists may well usher in 1904 with a shout of joy. The wide-awake chemist will appreciate to the fullest the recommendation of B.P. articles.

The Glyn-Jones case brings into force what the Pharmacy Act has in a measure failed to do. Qualified chemists now have a distinct standing apart from the ordinary vendor of medicine. Mr. Forbes showed that companies do not benefit by the exemption, because of the Smith v. Mason decision given in 1894. He then gave some at-the-counter illustrations of what chemists may or may not do. From these we cull the following:

The use of the possessive case does not imply liability if the conditions of Exemption 3 are complied with, such as "Brown's stomach-pills (pil. rhei co., B.P.). Dose: One every day after dinner." But the use of the possessive case seems superfluous. It gains no advantage when the formula is declared, and if not, then it is liable.

No trouble ought to arise with chemists in deciding which labels will be "liable" and which "not liable" if a careful study be made of Exemption 3. No good is gained by sending your labels to Somerset House if you are claiming under the exemption. Doubtless all such labels would be returned marked "Liable," although in reality, if sold under qualified conditions, they are "not liable." Example—a label such as the following is sent: "Stomach-pills (pil. rhei co., B.P.). A safe medicine in mild cases of indigestion. Harold Mitchell, chemist, Forest Gate." That label would be returned marked "Liable." Somerset House have to safeguard themselves regarding conditions of sale. If Mr. Mitchell sent out such a label on his pill-boxes to a licensed medicine-vendor, not being a qualified chemist, it would then become liable, but is "not liable" if sold on Mr. Mitchell's premises or the premises of another qualified chemist; hence Somerset House, to protect themselves, mark such a label "Liable" to stamp-duty.

The exemption does not affect any change in regard to such medicines as "Fellows's syrup," "Scott's emulsion," &c., when prescribed by a medical man without any admixture. The exemption from stamp duty exists only when they are prescribed in conjunction with other ingredients.

Mr. Forbes finally spoke of the changes as they affect the public, saying that it is for chemists to make the path of the public easy under the new administration. Let all remember that in their professional position they are the servants of the public in the highest sense of the word. If this is kept in view no trouble need be feared, but if the public are going to be looked upon as something to be commercially exploited in the light of this power unearthed after a century's neglect danger lies ahead.

A discussion followed the paper, Mr. SAVAGE moving, and Mr. WHITE seconding a vote of thanks to Mr. Forbes, and this was supplemented by one to the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. During the discussion many points in the administration of the law were cleared up.

OTHER BUSINESS.

It was unanimously agreed to suggest to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society the following gentlemen as Divisional Secretaries for the ensuing year: Mr. F. Walter Gwinn, West Ham (N.); Mr. W. R. Barnes, West Ham (S.); Mr. J. H. Matthews, Walthamstow; Mr. J. W. Lasham, Romford.

Mr. SAVAGE gave notice of motion for the December meeting with regard to the opening of patent medicines.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE opening meeting of the twenty-seventh Session of the above Association was held at 73 Newman Street, W., on October 8, when the new President (Mr. A. B. Britton) gave his inaugural address.

The proceedings opened with the presentation of the E-ray prize, consisting of the Association's silver medal (to which is added a copy of Remington's "Practice of Pharmacy" and 5/- presented by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.) to Mr. S. A. Frost, whose paper on the "Products of the Bee" was considered to be the better of the two competing papers.

A BACKWARD GLANCE

at the list of former Presidents of this Association, said Mr. BRITTON in his address, shows many names that are now well known far outside the limits of the C.A.A., and this is a source of legitimate pride and a spur to greater effort to all members. The fundamental fact that the Association is an actual success needs no further argument than the statement that it is entering the twenty-seventh year of its existence. This could not be the case if it did not serve some useful purpose. The President proceeded to draw the attention of every member to the serious consideration of the reputation and the standard to which the Association has attained, and asked if it is not worthy of every individual's best effort not only to maintain but to advance both. The members run the Association for their own pleasure, unasked and unpaid, the pleasure coming somewhat under the Irishman's definition, "Work is work when you are paid for it; when you are not it's pleasure." Until every individual member takes a real interest in the proceedings the Association would never work to the full extent of its power. The programme of the session is to be advertised, he said, rather more extensively than usual, and this, it is hoped, will bring in many visitors. Friendliness is the great keynote to the success of such an Association, and neglect of this point is just as fatal on the one hand as an air of patronage is on the other.

Dealing with current affairs, Mr. Britton said that the prospect for the chemist, while still difficult enough, is gradually assuming a brighter tint. The evil which has come near to wrecking the chemist's calling in the last few years is not competition, but panic. It is only necessary to read the dreary and parrot-like repetition so often displayed—"Store" this, 'Store' that, and 'Store' the other"—to have the fact made all too patent. Competition has to be met, and hurts nobody, but why throw away a title so hardly earned and descend to the level of a third-rate toy-shop or an indifferent imitation of Madame Tussaud's? The only explanation possible of such a surrender is panic. The increased activity of local and other organisations—many of them new—is the most hopeful sign of returning confidence. There is at the present time as good a high-class pharmacy trade to be done and as good a social position for the pharmacist as ever there has been, provided he is not frightened to lay himself out to do it, and at the same time knows how to treat his customers—to gain not only their custom but their respect. He knew of no more invigorating tonic, when driven to doubt by the many pessimistic views of the present and future position of pharmacy, than to go into a little of the ancient history of the calling. It reads much like a romance. After an interesting reference to Galen and some early fathers of pharmacy, Mr. Britton concluded by saying that just as pharmacy has held an honoured name in the past, so it should in the future; and one of the best means of promoting that most desirable end is by association and organisation.

Mr. LATREILLE, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Britton, said it was pleasing to notice the tone of breezy optimism that pervaded his address, and the e could be no doubt that the Association was in safe hands that Session.

Mr. LOWNSBROUGH, in seconding the vote, remarked upon the low standard of men who are now entering the trade.

Mr. BRITTON replied.

Several new members were elected, and the meeting adjourned.

Scarborough Chemists' Association.

At a meeting held on October 8, at 9.30 P.M., Mr. J. Whitfield, F.C.S., in the chair, the following

NEW OFFICE-BEARERS

were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. H. Chapman; Vice-President, Mr. F. Foster; Secretary, Mr. R. Gilchrist, 73 Newbro.

OTHER BUSINESS.

It was decided to hold meetings more frequently in future. The question of earlier closing was discussed. Several of the chemists in the north and west districts have agreed to close at 9 P.M.; some of the others were desirous to close earlier if the shops in the main street would. Finally Mr. Whitfield and Mr. Parkes promised to turn off window-lights at 8 P.M., and turn off shop-lights and lock the door at 9 P.M.

Varied opinions were expressed on the new stamp regulations, which will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on October 12 at 73 Harcourt Street, Dublin, the President (Mr. Edgar B. Aplin) in the chair. The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. R. G. Creed) reported that tickets for the smoking-concert which will be held in the Gresham Hotel, Upper Sackville Street, Dublin, on October 30 were available for distribution, and about twenty-five were at once disposed of. It was announced that the inaugural address in November would be by Mr. Patrick Kelly, M.C.P.S.I. Referring to the employment agency, it was stated that already the employers of Dublin looked upon the Association as an excellent vehicle for procuring efficient, experienced, and well-conducted assistants.

Stockport Chemists' Association.

THE first meeting of this session was held at the Albert Hall, Wellington Street, on Wednesday evening, October 7, Mr. Wm. Dodge in the chair. After the usual routine business, it was proposed by Mr. ORRELL and seconded by Mr. WILSON, and carried unanimously, that Mr. Orton be the Divisional Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. ROBERTS tendered the thanks of the Midland and London Public Dispensers' Association for the resolution, re "amendment to the Pharmacy Bill."

Northampton Chemists' Association.

A SPECIAL meeting of this Association was held at the Black Boy Hotel, Northampton, on Friday evening, October 9, the President (Mr. W. D. Mayger) in the chair. There was an excellent attendance.

THE HON. SECRETARY

(Mr. F. Cowdery), referring to his appointment as Divisional Secretary for the Pharmaceutical Society, stated that owing to a serious illness he is unable to continue the duties of the office—in fact, the doctor had advised him to sell his business and go right away from Northampton.

Mr. W. McKINELL said that all the members of the Association would join with him in expressing sorrow at the illness which overtook the Hon. Secretary during the last few months, and all would now be delighted to be able to congratulate Mr. Cowdery, who was so faithful and regular in the discharge of the duties of his office, upon his recovery. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that Mr. Cowdery would not relinquish the duties of Secretary of the Association. (Hear, hear.) He moved that a vote of congratulation be passed to Mr. Cowdery upon his recovery from such a dangerous illness. (Applause.)

Mr. EVAN C. ASHFORD seconded, and the vote was cordially adopted, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, Mr. Donald McKinnell was nominated as Divisional Secretary, and after other business of a minor character was disposed of the meeting adjourned.

Royal Photographic Society.

THE first general meeting of the new session was held on October 13, at 66 Russell Square, W.C. The President of the Society (Sir William Abney) was in the chair, and there was a large attendance of members.

An interesting feature of the occasion was the presentation of medals won in the various competitions in connection

with the Society's exhibition, now being held at the New Gallery, Regent Street.

In the course of his address, the PRESIDENT announced that, at a Council-meeting held earlier the same evening, a committee had been appointed to formulate plans for the establishment of the proposed research laboratory in connection with the Society. He hoped that, through the action of this committee, they would soon obtain sufficient funds to carry out the scheme.

North Kent Chemists' Association.

A GENERAL MEETING of the members of this Association was held at the Mitre Hotel, Chatham, on October 14, Mr. A. Stooke, New Brompton (President of the Association) occupying the chair. Members were present from Maidstone, Dartford, Gravesend, West Malling, Rochester, Strood, Chatham, and neighbourhood, the room being well filled.

The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, Gravesend) first read replies to the invitations that were issued for attendance at the meeting, several making very practical suggestions as to the course that should be adopted by the Association in regard to the Pharmacy Bill.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT,

submitted by the Hon. Secretary, showed the Association to have a balance in hand, and the subscriptions of a dozen new members were taken in the room.

THE B.P.C.

Mr. R. FEAVER CLARKE, who with Mr. D. U. Still and Mr. A. Goldthorpe, attended the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Bristol, read the report of the delegates. The Conference, it said, was acknowledged to be one of the most successful that had been held. All the delegates of the various Associations represented were most cordially received. The presidential address of Mr. T. H. W. Idris was most interesting to chemists and very important in its relation to the prescribing and dispensing of medicines by doctors, and the granting of death-certificates. The meeting of the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations was also a great success, but it was generally admitted that more time was required to discuss the important papers brought forward.

THE PHARMACY BILL.

The PRESIDENT explained the provisions of the new Pharmacy Bill, and said it would be the duty of that and other associations to fight it vigorously. He noticed that an agricultural meeting and dinner was advertised to take place within the next few days, and that reminded him that men were going down to cattle and other shows and banquets with a view to rights being gained for oilmen, ironmongers, and others to sell poisons in sealed packets. In view of this taking place, it was the duty of chemists' associations to see that they were represented at those functions, in order that the whole question might be put before the farmers and others assembled. In many instances by efforts of this kind meetings had absolutely refused to pass any resolution in favour of oilmen or ironmongers selling poisons in packets. Mr. Stooke also dealt with the

MEDICINE-STAMP ACTS.

Grocers' associations, oilmen, and others, he said, were crying out against their privileges being destroyed and the chemists having the monopoly; and these Associations, too, he was told, had interviewed the Inland Revenue authorities, but to little or no purpose, the Inland Revenue authorities having distinctly stated that they would grant them no privileges whatever. They had simply to face the situation. Chemists and druggists had every reason to be encouraged, and they were going to claim the rights extended to them by the Government.

A discussion followed on the stamp regulations in relation to the recent decisions of the law-courts. The members were generally of opinion that chemists would benefit to a large extent if they themselves complied implicitly with the regulations of the Inland Revenue, the officers of which were in no way hostile to them as traders. It was clearly shown that this was the first recognition by official bodies of chemists as different from other traders in regard to medi-

cine, and on this account it was a departure to be received with satisfaction by the members of the Association.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Association at Woolwich towards the end of November, and to exercise every effort to make the Association a tower of strength to the chemists and druggists of the county.

Mr. R. Feaver Clarke urged all members of the Association also to become members of the Pharmaceutical Society and the Chemists' Defence Association.

North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held at the White Bull Hotel, Blackburn, on October 14, Alderman R. Shorrocks (Darwen) being in the chair. There was a good attendance of members.

ANNUAL REPORTS.

Mr. HINDLE (Secretary *pro tem.*) reported that during the year numerous meetings had been held on urgent trade matters. He was disappointed with replies from members relative to questions on the new reading of the Stamp Acts. Anyhow, he was convinced that the new administration would result in benefit to the members of the Association. Reference was made to the fatal accident to the late Mayor of Blackburn, a member of the Association. The fact that educational work had not been neglected was also recorded.

The TREASURER reported a debit balance of 17. 4s.

The result of the

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

was as follows: President, Councillor Critchley; Vice-Presidents, Alderman Shorrocks, Messrs. W. Wells, Gifford, and H. Howarth; Secretary, Mr. Hindle; Treasurer, Mr. C. A. Critchley; executive, the officers and Messrs. Highton, Holt, Standing, and Pickup. All the members form the general committee.

THE FEDERATION.

On the recommendation of the committee, Mr. HINDLE moved, and Mr. PICKUP seconded, that the Association join the Federation.

Mr. GIFFORD moved an amendment that the Association do not join. He said the point, of course, lay in whether the Federation had justified itself. That was a most moot point, but there were, in his view, other considerations—viz, they must not forget the fact that Mr. Newsholme's organisation had materially changed things. They had, as he had often said, an ideally perfect machine at hand, and why not use it? At the present time the Pharmaceutical Society was well organised. It had the standing, the weight of a State-accredited body, and, moreover, it had will and anxiety to serve them. They knew he had never questioned the motives of his colleagues, but he went further and said the Council desired to co-operate with the Associations. Where then was reason for dissipating energy by multiplicity of organisation? His own view was that they should deal direct with their State representatives and impress their desires upon them. It was their opinions that mattered, and circumstances that interested Governments. The Council had declared with remarkable unanimity that personal qualification was to be the chemist's Magna Charta, and the Parliamentary Committee asked chemists to begin an active crusade to enforce that. The time was at hand when the injustice done to chemists should be stated in plain and simple language, and marching behind the Pharmaceutical Society the qualified person would come into his own. For those reasons he opposed the motion. At one time he thought the Federation held useful place, but it had not done what it might. It had been too hampered by contending influences, and of recent years the whole case had been altered by the great fact that Mr. Newsholme organised the Society on a different and more popular footing.

Mr. HOLT seconded.

Alderman SHORROCK agreed. He said the Federation had done good work in its time, and its intention was of such a nature that a vast amount of work could have been done to benefit chemists if it could have had the support it really deserved. It was intended that the Federation should do something that the Pharmaceutical Society would not or did

not do, but now the Society, or rather some of its officers, had done that by going about the country calling chemists together and speaking to them of what could be done if chemists would only give support. That was what did away with the need for the Federation. The Pharmaceutical Society had taken the work of the Federation in hand. If the Society could form itself into a kind of executive, for the purpose of going to different towns to bring chemists together, there would be no occasion for Federation. Doubtless the Darwin Association at the next meeting would consider the same subject with the object of adopting the course suggested in the amendment.

Mr. HIGHTON thought the Association owed a debt of gratitude to the Federation for the useful work it had done in the past; yet he agreed there was no further necessity for the continuation of the Federation.

The motion was withdrawn and the amendment unanimously agreed to.

Tunbridge Wells and District Chemists' Association.

THE first meeting of the session was held at the Castle Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday, October 8, when there was a good muster of the members, the President (Mr. Pearmund) taking the chair.

A discussion took place on the proposed changes in the Inland Revenue Regulations. No resolution concerning it was passed, as the question was postponed for further consideration at a later meeting.

Mr. A. E. Hobbs was re-nominated as Divisional Secretary to the Pharmaceutical Society, and thanked for his past services.

It was decided to hold a dinner at an early date, and a sub-committee was elected to make all arrangements for the same.

Messrs. Vizer and Phillips were elected members of the Association.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the hope expressed that the meetings during the winter might be well attended, and the discussions prove of interest and value.

Oxford Chemists' Association.

THE first meeting of the eighth session was held on Tuesday, October 13, at the Golden Cross Hotel, Mr. G. C. Druce (President) in the chair. The PRESIDENT regretted to say that two members of the Association (Mr. Squire and Mr. Gilkes) had been removed by death since the last meeting. He proposed that a letter conveying the sympathy and condolence of the members be sent to the widows by the Secretary. This was carried unanimously. An informal discussion took place on the new regulations of the Inland Revenue regarding dutiable medicines, and was adjourned to the next meeting.

East Sussex Pharmaceutical Association.

THE opening meeting of the session was held at the Edinburgh Hotel, St. Leonard's, on October 14, Mr. Vint in the chair. After opening remarks by the CHAIRMAN, Mr. A. C. WOOTTON addressed the meeting on the proposed

PHARMACY BILL,

especially in reference to Clause 7. He said that on the verge of a new campaign chemists should be earnest and unanimous. There was apprehension in some quarters, that the much-maligned clause should be advocated, because it would put companies on a level with chemists as regards qualification. One registered man in a partnership of three would not qualify a private firm to sell poisons, and the same law should insist that all the directors of a company should be chemists. The clause states that every company trading as chemists shall have one or more directors who, or all of whom, shall be registered under the Pharmacy Acts, and shall perform the duties of directors and not occupy similar positions in other companies. This attempts to forestall evasion in three ways:

(1) All the directors must be qualified.

(2) There shall be directors. Otherwise the articles of association might provide for the Secretary to nominally

take his instructions from general meeting, and directors be dispensed with.

(3) Provision is made lest men should sell their names and qualification, and accept dummy positions on the boards of management.

The clause has been the Jonah of the Bill, and friends and foes have recommended that it be thrown over. It would have been a poor Bill if it had not been opposed. There were four or five blocking motions—by (1) Bailey, director Harrods; and Spiers & Pond; (2) Langly, representing Jesse Boot; (3) Cross, inspired by general hatred of the Pharmaceutical Society; (4) a mouthpiece of the co-operatives; (5) Gilhooly, who feared that the step might lead to action against Irish companies.

It was also threatened with opposition in the Lords by Lord Ebury (the Chairman of the Army and Navy Stores). Among friends it was considered by some a dangerous clause, in that it recognised drug-stores at all and gave them legal status. Others, like the truculent Marshall Hall, said it asked for too much. There was no need for despondency at the result of the last attempt. It was only a preliminary canter, and chemists have to educate the public and M.P.s. Chemists have a reasonable claim, and not, like opponents, merely personal interests to serve. Chemists must do whatever they can, and, above all, thoroughly believe in the policy. They have let matters drift in the past—may be they have drifted too far. For over twenty years since the first case was taken to the House of Lords the Society has been seeking for grounds to meet unfair competition with the existing law as understood, but this is their first attempt to deal with it by fresh legislation. The first proposal (never adopted) was to make "persons" include bodies corporate. The Lord Chancellor wished to deal with the question by securing a man qualified in each open shop. This was included in the draft Companies Act, but struck out in the Commons. Mr. Marshall Hall proposed to strangle drug-companies by a penal clause providing for the deregistration of those chemists who enter their employ—an unjust proposal. Apart from these, all criticism has been destructive, and no one has proposed a more workable plan than the clause under discussion. Shall we go forward with the Bill, omitting this contentious clause? It would be a pity to do that, for without it the rest of the Bill is of little value. Chemists must get Parliament to consider their grievances, and rather be refused than unheard. If the Bill could once be discussed, there would be little danger in the opposition of Messrs. Bailey, Cross & Co, for they would have to speak of their own pockets, while the champions of pharmacy would wield the more powerful weapon of sentiment.

In the discussion which followed, Mr. VINT emphasised two of the points mentioned—(1) that chemists may not have unqualified partners, and therefore all the directors of a company should be registered chemists; and (2) that opponents in the Legislature all have personal ends to serve, while those in favour were not personally affected by the case.

Mr. HARRISON advocated sticking to the whole clause. He deprecated striking a bargain in the matter. The clause represented our right, and to give way a little meant to lose a great deal, if not all. Moral, support the Society.

Mr. JOHN SMITH thought there would not be much difference in opinion among those present. A man who, like Mr. Bailey, could say that, as a company director, he opposed the Bill, could have no conception of what public duties mean, and was prostituting his office to his personal advantage, and his fellow M.P.s must surely take note of his position in the debate. All Acts of Parliament are compromises, and this Bill fairly takes account of things as they exist. It recognises the safety of the public, the existing Acts, and also the capital that since the legal decision *re* London and Provincial Supply Association, has been invested in drug companies.

Mr. ROSSITER proposed an early deputation to the local M.P., and this was referred to the Executive.

A discussion followed on the medicine-stamp question, and through the courtesy of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST in sending a telegram the Secretary was able to announce the latest concession by the Board of Inland Revenue in regard to indicating formulae on labels.

Festivities.

WOLVERHAMPTON CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

In connection with this Association a smoking-concert was held on October 7, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton. The President (Mr. F. A. Willcock) was in the chair, and a good programme of music and recitation was gone through, some of the "turns" being encored, and all being well received.

COLONIAL EXPANSION.

The staff of Messrs. Allen & Hanburys (Limited), Bethnal Green, E., the other evening entertained Mr. A. J. Firkens, the company's representative in Australia during the past nine years, and Mr. T. W. Tullett to dinner in the Café Villa. Mr. Firkens had been home on holiday, and stopped on the way at Cape Town to have a run through the Colonies. It is not surprising, therefore, to hear that Messrs. Allen & Hanburys have decided to open a branch in South Africa, and Mr. Tullett leaves next month to start. That is why the staff included him in the honour they paid to Mr. Firkens. It was a very jolly evening.

NOTTS CRICKETEES.

The first annual supper and smoking-concert in connection with the Nottingham Chemists' Cricket Club took place at the Maypole Hotel, on October 8, when there was a large attendance. Mr. T. Wilson occupied the chair, Mr. E. J. R. Parkes being in the vice-chair, and among those present were Messrs. A. Eberlin (Hon. Secretary of the Nottingham Chemists' Association), W. Lee (captain), E. H. Turton (vice-captain), — Prince (hon. secretary), J. A. Brown (hon. treasurer), A. Middleton, W. Brinson, F. Gibson, A. R. Bennett, R. H. Beverley, T. L. Beverley, and others. Mr. Eberlin, in proposing the toast of the evening, said they had had a most pleasant and happy season's cricket, and, although they had not had unqualified success, he hoped that this would not in the least degree deter them from aspiring to greater success in the future. In response, Mr. Prince said they started with sixteen members, but now boasted of forty-four. The club was greatly indebted to the President and Vice-Presidents and committee for the magnificent support which they had given to the club, and also thanked those gentlemen who, by their subscriptions, had helped to place the club on a sound foundation. Mr. H. Henstock, who headed the batting averages, was presented by Mr. Brinson with a bat, and a ball was presented to Mr. Lee by Mr. Parkes. Musical items were rendered between the speeches, and altogether the affair was considered highly successful.

MANCHESTER PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual dinner was held at the Albion Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, on Wednesday evening, October 14, the President (Mr. G. S. Woolley) in the chair. He was supported by Dr. Joseph Collier, Alderman R. Gibson, the Lord Mayor of the City, Professor R. B. Wild, Mr. W. Kirkby, Mr. Rymer Young, Mr. H. Kemp, and about seventy other gentlemen. The loyal toasts having been duly honoured,

Dr. Joseph Collier proposed "The Manchester Pharmaceutical Association," congratulating them on the number of members present. He thought the pharmaceutical and the medical professions ought to be bracketed together. He looked at both as being in partnership. Both existed for the amelioration of suffering. The medical profession also set right deformities, and pharmacists sold cosmetics. (Laughter.) He was quite well aware that he must not talk politics, but he was also well aware that the pharmaceutical, like the medical, profession required protecting—(hear, hear)—the medico against the quack, the pharmacist against the grocer. The community of interest between the doctor and the pharmacist should produce kindly feelings one towards the other. He did not know how to account for it, but it was a fact that there was a falling-off in the numbers of candidates for the medical profession, not only in Manchester, but all over the Kingdom. It might, perhaps, be difficult for parents to send their children to the schools to qualify, yet it was a time when the advantages were greater, for no unqualified person was allowed to hamper the

field against the qualified man. He desired to see as many students in the pharmaceutical as in the medical schools. Knowing how often pharmacists were consulted by everybody, and knowing what influence they had, he thought they might put a good word in for medical students. (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. Geo. S. Woolley replied. The sentiments expressed by Dr. Collier raised thoughts in his mind which he could not fully deal with that evening. The first association of chemists in Manchester of which they had any record was in November, 1841. He had in his hand a letter in the handwriting of his father calling the meeting together. It was very valuable to him (the chairman), but he would hand it round for their inspection. It proposed to "form a branch of the Pharmaceutical Society." A society was formed, and it included such names as John Mothershead, Standring, Bowker, Wright, Hargreaves, Crompton (Bury), and others—names well known to those present. In those days the object of the Society was to raise the status of the chemist and druggist, to make him something better than he was at that time. Those who met to form the Society were men who wished to progress, and their object was education. Their work went on for many years. Lectures were given, and among the lecturers were Calvert, Dr. Turrer, and Leo Grindon. All the work of the Association in those early days was devoted to education. At the present day the duties had somewhat differed. The facilities for education in Manchester were now so great that an association such as theirs could find other matters on which to employ their minds in the trade or craft to which they belonged. Their great object now was to watch over pharmacy; but, although engaged in other work at the present time, it must not be supposed that education would be overlooked. He saw by the results of the recent Minor examinations in London that out of 224 candidates who went up only sixty passed. There was something wrong there. Either the wrong class of students were going up or the education was not all that could be desired for the purpose. At all events, it was evident there was something wrong which required to be rectified. He did not know how it was, but he was inclined to think that the wrong class of men tried to enter into pharmacy. Another point: A feeling had been expressed and a desire had been manifested on the part of certain authorities that there should be a degree in pharmacy, and that it should be in connection with the Victoria University. If such a proposal could be managed, and if the Victoria University should be the first to issue a degree in pharmacy, it would be a great gratification to all of them, and he sincerely hoped it might come to pass. The business of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association at the present time was more particularly in the line of safeguarding the interests of pharmacists. They all knew the old grievance. If A B was not a qualified chemist, he could not open a shop and call himself a chemist and druggist or a pharmaceutical chemist; but if A B took unto himself C, D, E, F, G, and made them into a limited-liability company, he could go on just as he pleased. He (Mr. Woolley) thought that was wrong. He believed it required rectifying. They had seen that the Society proposed to go on with their Bill. The Bill was the least they could possibly accept. It was the duty of the members of the Association, and the duty of pharmacists generally, to assist the Pharmaceutical Council to the best of their power to carry out their wishes in this matter. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. Kirkby proposed "The Medical Profession." He said the medical profession had always held a high position in this country, and to that profession they owed many privileges. After referring to the medical and other schools of the past in Manchester connected with pharmacists and chemistry generally, he said they really got in touch with the medical profession.

Dr. Wild, who responded to the toast, said with regard to the education of pharmacists it might be a little more considered than it had been in the past. They had tried at the Owens College to extend it as much as possible. There would be no difficulty in getting up a curriculum to enable them to get a degree. The present time was opportune, owing to the reconstruction of the Victoria University.

A smoking-concert followed, the programme being of a superior character.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned application should be lodged with O. N. DALTON, Esq., O.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.O., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," September 30, 1903.)

Device; for a natural mineral table-water. By G. L. W. Peters and W. M. Van der Hoeven, 9 Laurence Pountney Hill, E.C. 254,619.

"LANESINE"; for perfumery and toilet-articles. By the Vereinigte Chemische Werke Actiengesellschaft, Berlin, c/o Abel & Imray, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, W.C. 256,887.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," October 7, 1903.)

"THALLEN"; for an anti-incrustator. By G. T. Horsley, 94 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 256,764.

"STEELNE" ("Steel" disclaimed); for a compound for hardening iron and steel. By H. Miller & Co. (Limited), Dyer Street, Leeds. 254,428.

Design of two human figures representing the god and goddess "Mahadeva" and "Parvate"; for artificial colours and dyes in Classes 1 and 4. By the Basle Chemical-works, Basle, c/o Abel & Imray, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, W.C. 255,459 and 255,460.

"SAPOSILIC" ("Sapo" disclaimed); for chemicals and substances in Classes 1, 2, 3, 47, 48, and 50. By the Hansa Chemical-works (Limited), 19 to 21 Wilson Street, Finsbury Pavement, E.C. 255,351, 255,352, 255,353, 255,354, 255,355, and 255,356.

"ULMARÈNE" ("Ulmair" disclaimed); for a pharmaceutical preparation. By La Société Parisienne des Produits Chimiques, Paris, c/o Irvine & Borrowman, 25 Crutched Friars, E.C. 251,557.

Facsimile signature of applicant across label; for "King's American Oils." By F. Merritt, 11 Motley Street, Curtain Road, E.C. 255,335.

"RUBENO"; for goods in Class 3. By T. Stainton, 122 Oxford Road, Reading. 255,501.

"BROWNIES"; for medicinal capsules. By John Durant, Murray Road, Bedminster, Bristol. 256,332.

"CITROLIA" ("Citro" disclaimed); for medicinal and hygienic preparations in Class 3, and for eucalyptus oil and extract. By the Tasmanian Eucalyptus Oil Company (Limited), 133 Leadenhall Street, E.C. 256,469.

"PILLIKIN" ("Pill" disclaimed); for a patent medicine. By Lamont, Corliss & Co., 11 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 256,625.

"LYFENE" ("Life" disclaimed) for medicinal tablets. By T. Winterburn, 14 St. Andrew's Villas, Bradford. 256,800.

"CHA-BRON"; for a salve. By C. Brown, 49 Lennard Street, Penge. 256,879.

"ASEPTURIN"; for a drug. By R. Sumner & Co. (Limited), 50A Lord Street, Liverpool. 256,890.

"CAVITINE"; for chemicals. By J. W. Epps, 45 Craven Road, Paddington, W., pharmaceutical chemist. 256,903.

Design of kangaroo and lion (both in breeches) conversing; for eucalyptus oil. By the Australian Agency Association (Limited), 10 Gladsmuir Road, Upper Holloway, N. 256,990.

"ANTIGOLDS"; for chemicals. By the General Chemical Company (Limited), 57 Chancery Lane, W.C. 257,061.

Device and facsimile signature of applicant; for surgical instruments and appliances. By H. Berdot, 10 New Bond Street, W. 256,885.

Device; for photographic films for cinematographs. By the Charles Urban Trading Company (Limited), 48 Rupert Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W. 256,793.

"YOLKOO" and "YOLKINE" ("Yolk" disclaimed); for food-stuffs. By A. W. Loveless, Market Place, North Walsham. 256,333 and 256,331.

The word "VELCUTIS" and combination of devices; for a skin-application after shaving. By the Velcutis Antiseptic Company, 35 Slade Lane, Longsight, Manchester. 255,960.

"ALBODONT"; for tooth-paste. By T. C. White, 26 Belgrave Road, Piccadilly, S.W. 256,760.

"HITO"; for a hair-preparation. By J. Cumberbirch, 27 Rochdale Road, Manchester. 256,835.

Pharmaceutical Examinations.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the following list of candidates who were granted certificates at the recent examinations in Edinburgh:

MAJOR EXAMINATION.

One candidate was examined and passed, viz.—

Willox, Leonard Stephen, Edinburgh.

MINOR EXAMINATION.

One hundred and twenty-three candidates were examined, and the following forty passed:

Anderson, James, Glasgow
Anderson, Wm. P., Edinburgh
Buchan, William, Kirkcaldy
Burn, Wm. B., Whitley Bay
Butchers, William H., Newark
Campbell, Alex., Kilmarnock
Cassie, Rhona C. H., Hopeman
Cran, Wm. Strath, Peterhead
Crosbie, Andrew, Galashiels
Davidson, Alex. H., Stranraer
Loig, John Allan, St. Andrews
Elliot, Thomas, Edinburgh
Galbraith, T. H., Kilbarchan
Gammie, Alexander, Lochgelly
Hendry, Stuart M., Aberdeen
Kipling, Joseph Boyes, Malton
McCreath, William F., Leven
McDougall, Jean I., Montrose
McLaren, Wm. Berry, Newport
McMillan, Robert G., Glasgow
Matthews, Joseph, Kelso

Meakin, William, Eastwood
Michie, David C., Edinburgh
Milne, Alexander, Fettercairn
Moffat, G. H. C., Ecclefechan
Moffat, I. A. C., Ecclefechan
Moffat, William, Butterknowle
Muir, Thomas H., Prestonkirk
Nightingale, H. R., Edinburgh
Noddings, Arthur Wm., Leeds
Paisley, Scott, Langholm
Reid, William, Paisley
Richardson, George, Bishop
Auckland
Robertson, Alex. Dodds, Oban
Robertson, Harry Butchart,
Broughty Ferry
Shield, William, Stanley
Sprott, Charles E., Maryport
Steven, George, Edinburgh
Wilson, George Bell, London
Wood, J. G., Berwick-on-Tweed

Marriages.

WHYSALL—CULLEN-TRUSWELL.—On September 23, at the Church of the Holy Rood, Edwalton, by the Rev. John Killick, Vicar of Little Crompton, Gloucester, assisted by the Rev. A. Sutherland, Vicar of Edwalton, George Ernest, second son of William Whysall, Grantham, to Mary Gertrude, eldest daughter of Walter Cullen-Truswell, of West Bridgford.

YATES—WROC.—On October 14, at Holy Trinity Church, Shaw, by the Rev. J. W. Pinniger, Vicar, William Yates, chemist and optician, to Alice E. Wroc, both of Shaw.

Deaths.

CARR.—On October 7, at Berwick Infirmary, Mr. Walter Patterson Carr, chemist and druggist, Berwick, aged sixty-three years. Mr. Carr was the fourth son of the late Mr. Wm. Graham Carr, pharmaceutical chemist, Berwick, of which town he was admitted a freeman in 1860. For some time he sat on the Town Council. He was a leading member of the St. David's Lodge of Freemasons, and had acted as sidesman and warden of the Parish Church.

DUFFEY.—On October 13, at 30 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin, George Frederick Duffey, aged sixty years. Sir George Duffey was an ex-President of the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland, and was well known to pharmacists from the fact that he was Visitor for the Privy Council in Ireland of the examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. Sir George took his M.D. degree in 1871, and was knighted at the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. He was the editor and part author of Griffith's "Materia Medica and Pharmacy," and was professor of materia medica to the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland.

ROBERTSON.—On October 6, at 14 Caird Drive, Partick, Mr. Alexander Robertson, chemist and druggist, aged twenty-three, youngest son of the late Mr. David Robertson, of Bridge-of-Allan.

SINCLAIR.—At High Street, Invergordon, on October 11, Mr. Robert Sinclair, chemist and druggist.

Formulas

for

"Known, Admitted, and Approved" Remedies

[The first instalment was given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, September 26.]

Liver-mixture, I.

(Correction.)

In the formula printed last week signs for an ounce instead of a drachm were used in connection with acid and tincture of nux vomica. The formula should read:

Acid. nitro. mur. dil... ʒiss.
Tr. nucis vom. ... ʒj.
Inf. gentian. co. ... ʒiiss.
Aq. chloroform. ad ... ʒxxx.

M.

The dose of II. should be ʒss.

Indigestion-mixtures.

I.

Acid. hydrochlor. dil... ʒj.
Tr. nucis vomicee ... ʒss.
Inf. gent. co. conc. ... ʒiiss.
Aq. chloroformi ad ... ʒxxx.

One tablespoonful to be taken three times a day, in water, after meals.

II.

Sodii bicarb. ... ʒss.
Ammon. carb. ... ʒij.
Tr. nucis vomicee ... ʒiv.
Inf. gent. co. conc. ... ʒiiss.
Aq. chloroformi ad ... ʒxxx.

One tablespoonful three times a day.

III.

Sodii bicarb. ... ʒj.
Pulv. rhei ... ʒvj.
Pulv. zingib. ... ʒiv.
Aq. menth. pip. ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls three times a day.

IV.

Bismuth. carb. ... ʒvj.
Sodii bicarb. ... ʒj.
Pulv. trag. co. ... ʒij.
Tr. chlorof. co. (B.P. 85) ʒiss.
Aq. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls to be taken three times a day.

V.

Sodii sulphocarb. ... ʒvj.
Sodii bicarb. ... ʒvj.
Bismuth. carb. ... ʒiv.
Pulv. trag. co. ... ʒij.
Tr. cardam. co. ... ʒj.
Tr. chlorof. et morph. (B.P. 85) ... ʒij.
Aq. cinnamom. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls to be taken three times a day.

VI.

Sodii carb. ... ʒij.
Bismuth carb. ... ʒvj.
Ext. casc. sag. liq. ... ʒiv.
Tr. euonymi ... ʒiv.
Tr. cardam. co. ... ʒiv.
Syrup. zingih. ... ʒij.
Aq. chloroformi ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls to be taken three times a day, after meals

VII.

Glycer. pepsin. ... ʒj.
Liq. hismuth. ... ʒij.
Liq. morph. hydrochlor. ... ʒiv.
Acid. hydrocyan. dil. ... ʒij.
Liq. ammoniae ... ʒj.
Tr. cardam. co. ... ʒj.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

One tablespoonful three times a day, after meals.

No. vij. is the best indigestion-mixture to keep put up for retail sale. It is a pleasant and efficacious preparation.

Influenza-mixtures.

I.

Acidi citrici ... ʒj.
Tr. quin. ammon. ... ʒiiss.
Tr. aurant. ... ʒiv.
Glycerin. ... ʒij.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls every four hours.

II.

Salicin. ... ʒij.
Quin. sulphat. ... ʒss.
Acid. hydrobrom. dil. ʒiv.
Syrup. ... ʒiiss.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls every four hours.

III.

Potass. citrat. ... ʒij.
Liq. amm. acet. conc. ʒj.
Spt. ether. nit. ... ʒj.
Syr. aurant. ... ʒij.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls every four hours.

Rheumatic Mixtures.

I.

Salicini. ... ʒij.
Quinine sulph. ... ʒj.
Acid. sulphur. dil. ʒij.
Tr. aurantii ... ʒj.
Syrup. ... ʒj.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls three times a day.

The best mixture, and most suitable for a stock line.

II.

Sodii salicylat. ... ʒiv.
Potass. citrat. ... ʒiv.
Tr. aurantii ... ʒj.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls every four hours.

Tonic Rheumatic Mixture.

Potass. citrat. ... ʒvj.
Tr. ferri perchlor. ... ʒvj.
Glycerini ... ʒij.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls in a wine-glassful of water, after meals.

Often prescribed during the convalescence following rheumatism.

The Kaleidoscope.



A New Version.

Said the short Umnia to the long Umnia,
"You are shy, O my sire, you are shy;
Let succus glycyrrhizæ take a rest, if you can; a
Braver show with sapo I will try."

Said the long Umnia to the short Umnia,
"You are fly, my son John, you are fly;
Let sapo carb. deterg. from fair Southwark now emerge
To wash the world, and babies too, say I."

SHEFFIELD PHARMACEUTICAL AND CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the Council was held on Tuesday evening, October 13, for the election of officers for the ensuing year, special interest attaching to the business owing to the next British Pharmaceutical Conference being held in Sheffield. Mr. George Squire having been voted to the chair, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. The result of the elections was as follows: Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, F.C.S., President; Mr. A. Russell Fox, F.L.S., and Mr. C. F. Carr, Vice-Presidents; Mr. George Squire, Treasurer; Mr. H. Antcliffe, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. H. E. Ibbitt and H. G. Williams, Auditors; and Mr. F. W. Whitworth, Librarian. A hearty vote of thanks was, on the motion of Mr. PERCY CARR, seconded by Mr. J. W. J. TURNER, accorded to the retiring officers.

IN order to cope with the demands of the highly specialised new German tariff, the Customs officials are to be instructed in chemistry, physics, and mechanical technology, and at the more important Customs offices a laboratory with library is to be established. The teachers are to be professors of the technical colleges and kindred institutions.

How CURIOUS!—The *Drogisten Zeitung*, Leipzig, in a recent number reprinted a little pleasantry from a Vienna journal. Here it is. If the letters of the words "Apotheker" (apothecary) and "Bierbrauer" (brewer) are replaced by figures corresponding to their position in the alphabet, the sum in both cases will be 99. Thus:

A p o t h e k e r B i e r b r a u e r
1 16 15 20 8 5 11 5 18 = 99 2 9 5 18 2 18 1 21 5 18 = 99

The point in this is that druggists (storemen) and apothekers (professional pharmacists) are as oil and water in Germany, the latter having a contempt for the former which the druggists respond to in such funny ways.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

A New Medicine-stamp Act

will almost certainly provide us with material for discussion in the not very distant future. Whether one is in preparation or not I have no idea, but it does not require a great amount of insight to perceive that the present statutes have pretty nearly served their time. Not many Acts of Parliament, especially if they have much wear, can survive a century, and the complications which have recently arisen in the interpretation of these must have tired the patience and ingenuity even of the Somerset House staff, where the medicine-stamp difficulties have hitherto been regarded as a sort of intellectual recreation. Take one of these—

The Penny Trade

for example. I know that the authorities have always been bothered about this. They do not want to go before a magistrate and say, "This penny box of pills ought to bear a three halfpenny stamp, and we claim a ten-pound penalty because it does not." The Magistrate's sympathies would straightway go out to the defendant. In these latter days this particular difficulty has been accentuated. Hundreds of labels for penny boxes of pills have been sent to Somerset House, and the scribes there have had to mark them "Liable to duty." But enforcement of that opinion is another matter. To deliberately refrain from enforcing it is a policy almost as bad for the Acts as an active crusade would be. This is only one among a multitude of anomalies and inconsistencies which must be continually before the minds of the officials.

New Legislation

in regard to stamped medicines is not likely to benefit chemists and druggists. The Government will try to get at least as much revenue as they get now, and specific exemptions in favour of the duly apprenticed pharmacist will be maintained with difficulty. All the same, it would not be to the advantage of the people generally that totally unqualified people should be permitted to flood the country with their medical nostrums; and it is not at all impossible that some clear revenue distinction between the quack and the qualified doctor or pharmacist would be acceptable to Parliament.

A General Election

is confidently expected early next year, and it is desirable that the forces of pharmacy should be ready for it. Candidates are more docile, more ready to listen to reason, than elected members, and at least much educative work can be accomplished when the representation of the people is in the melting-pot. The issue at the next general election is likely to be a sharply defined one, and in that case subjects which the ordinary politician is likely to deem trivial or minor will have less chance than usual. Still, chemists' associations all over the country ought to be able to acquaint fifty or a hundred candidates with the principles of the Pharmacy Bill, and convince some of them of its justice. Of the three English, one Scotch, and one Irish statesmen who last session blocked the Bill there was none whose position on the poll at the 1900 election gives much hope of a repentant frame of mind. Mr. James Bailey at Newington had a majority of 865; Mr. Batty Langley at Athercliffe was unopposed at the last two elections; so was Mr. Harwood at Bolton. Mr. Alexander Cross held Camlachie by a majority of 1,238, and Mr. Gilhooly in West Cork in 1892

disposed of his opponent by 3,155 to 329, and has not since found a challenger.

The Pharmacy Bill

would perhaps meet with Mr. James Bailey's and Mr. Gilhooly's approval if its Clause 7 were deleted. But what astonishes me is that any pharmacist should share those gentlemen's antipathy to the proposal. The Bill, I understand, was aimed directly at companies practising pharmacy; that was its one purpose, and I thought chemists and druggists were unanimous in the view that legal privileges enjoyed by such companies constituted an injustice to themselves. They have been saying this for more than twenty years; and now that a proposal to remedy that injustice is for the first time submitted by the Pharmaceutical Council to Parliament there are suggestions in various quarters that the claim should be abandoned, or at any rate modified. Not because they prefer some rival scheme—there is none in the field—but on account of the opposition of Messrs. Bailey, Gilhooly & Co., forsooth! Unquestionably the opposition of the company-mongers in Parliament, and, still worse, the indifference of the remaining legislators, are tremendous factors against us. It is very doubtful whether in any conditions we can overcome these; but it is perfectly certain that we never can if we advance to the attack under a Compromise flag.

Out of the 224 Candidates

at the last Minor Examination 60 passed—not quite 27 per cent. This, I think, must be a bottom record. The pass percentages of the Minor Examination for the last dozen years are worth noting; those appended include both the English and Scotch results. They begin with the year 1891, and end with 1902, both inclusive:

45, 41, 39, 37, 35, 35, 32, 32, 30, 33, 28, 30.

The almost regular decline is more than curious: it demands explanation. Surely nobody believes that these figures correctly represent the proportionate degree of pharmaceutical competence in the respective years—that the average young man trained to the business of a chemist and druggist is less than two-thirds as good in his technical knowledge as he was twelve years ago, and that he has been going downhill with this rapid and steady persistency. There is another obvious and more probable explanation. Has the standard been raised 30 per cent. since 1891? But I am not at all sure that this constant advance in the severity of the examination is justified. Such advance must stop somewhere, and it is time that the experts told us when this point is to be reached.

The New Clause

added to the Pharmacy Bill, or something like it, to meet the reasonable objections of medical practitioners was necessary. The medical profession, dentists, and veterinary surgeons are almost as seriously threatened by the unqualified-company invasion as pharmacists, and they should be the most influential outside supporters of the measure. We are, in fact, fighting their battle as well as our own. It was suggested, however, in a *C. & D.* editorial last week that the correcting clause goes a good way beyond merely making it clear that doctors might dispense their medicines and keep open shop as freely under its provisions as they may now. Specifically it was stated that doctors will not be required to register their shops if they have any. I confess I cannot quite follow this argument, though it seems plausible enough to need close consideration. It appears to me that the new clause would simply maintain all the rights reserved by the exempting sections of the 1868 and 1869 Acts—all these, but no more. Medical men, for example, would be entitled to do whatever registered chemists might do, so that the title "registered person" in the new Act would cover them. But if the Legislature should enact some entirely new provision applicable to registered persons (as would be the case if this Bill should pass), medical men would be as subject to this as chemists. The scope of their exemption is expressly limited to what was enacted in the first fifteen sections of the 1868 Act.—[See note on page 656.—EDITOR.]

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Editorial Comments.

No Formula-numbers Needed.

WE have pleasure in informing our subscribers, especially those of them who have sent in formulæ of known, admitted, and approved remedies, that the Board of Inland Revenue have made an important concession in respect to them. This is embodied in the following letter, which we received on Wednesday:

25762 S.
1903.

Inland Revenue,
Somerset House,
London, W.C.

13th October, 1903

SIR,—I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to advert to their letter of the 7th ultimo, in which it was stated, in reply to your inquiry regarding THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, that, in order that a medicine may fall within the exemption from stamp-duty in favour of "known, admitted, and approved" remedies, such information should be given on the label as would enable the formula to be absolutely identified.

Since the date of this letter, however, the Board's attention has been drawn to the frequency of cases in which several different formulæ for a medicine appear in a recognised book of reference under the same name, and, on a further consideration of the questions involved, they have decided that they will not insist in cases of this kind on a disclosure of the precise formula of the medicine in question.

It is, therefore, desired that the Board's previous letter may be accepted with this qualification.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. E. CHAPMAN,

Assistant-Secretary.

The Editor,

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

This means that it will not be necessary to put the numbers of formulæ on the labels of medicines prepared from them, and therefore we come back to the original opinion of the Board upon which were based the articles in our issues of July 25 and August 8. The terms of the Board's reply then left it open to doubt whether the precise formula should be

indicated, but we were again asked by subscribers to submit this particular point, and the Board's letter of September 7 decided that the exact formula should be indicated. We think the Board are well advised in modifying this view to that embodied in their letter of October 13; and although we advisedly refer to it as a concession, it seems to be strictly in accordance with statutory terms. Chemists and druggists have certain rights under Exemption 3, and a declaration by them on the labels of medicines that they are prepared according to published formulæ suffices to show the non-proprietary character of the preparation. This meets the law's requirements, and in the event of any suspicion of abuse it should not be difficult for the authorities to make the suspected offenders declare, for their own information, upon what grounds (composition or otherwise) the medicine is considered to come within Exemption 3. In consequence of the modification of the conditions, our labours in regard to the forthcoming DIARY will be much lightened. We have already informed by post all who sent requests for the numbers of their formulæ that none will be necessary on the labels. Those who have sent in formulæ may therefore get new labels put in hand forthwith, adding after the title in each case, "(C. & D. DIARY)," or "Prepared according to THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY," or "Prepared according to 'Pharmaceutical Formulas,'" or "(Phar. Form.)." Any of these can be stamped on old labels with an indiarubber-stamp, or an additional slip-label may be used such as:

Prepared according to
"Pharmaceutical Formulas."

Containing Chlorodyne, Squills,
and Ipecac.

The second label, attached to an old cough-mixture label, shows how the alternative method of disclaiming proprietary rights is carried out. As the immediate result of the new concession may be a large influx of formulæ for publication by us; we may say that we shall give them place in the supplementary volume of "Pharmaceutical Formulas" which is in preparation, as our DIARY is now so far advanced that we cannot keep the pages of the formulas section open longer.

A Word of Caution.

OUR correspondence columns contain letters in regard to medicine-stamp questions which we can scarcely pass without comment. In one it is urged that chemists and druggists should agitate for the abrogation of the "concession" regarding the resale of small quantities of stamped medicines. We pointed out last week that this is not strictly a concession, and nothing can be added to the statement made then, except that it is illegal under the statutes for the makers or first vendors of a dutiable medicine to open a stamped packet of the medicine and sell the contents in small quantities unstamped. If this question and another that stamps be issued for smaller quantities of dutiable medicines are considered by chemists' associations, they should also take into account whether they are ready to lay down definite suggestions for the amendment of the statutes. These were never intended to interfere with the sale of official preparations which are not nostrums or patent medicines by qualified persons, and full exercise of the privileges of Exemption 3

should surely be given a chance before chemists and druggists agitate for small items of relief for themselves and further restrictions upon their competitors. The terms of dutiability are precise, and there would be little trouble if ingenuity were not exercised to avoid the tax, but the fact should be better recognised by individuals that as soon as they begin to claim something special for their medicines, and tell what they are good for, they get into line with Mr. Beecham, so far as the revenue is concerned. "Xrayser" prophesies early amendment of the statutes. We are unable to say how far he speaks with authority, but we believe that the gentlemen in Somerset House who have charge of this department would not be averse to any simplification of the statutes which would conserve or augment the revenue, and relieve them of the annoyances and hair-splitting which attempts to avoid the duty bring to them. But we do not think that anything is to be gained by chemists through backing this before they know how they stand. Between December 31, 1903, and March 31, 1904, when each department of the Government will help Mr. Austen Chamberlain to frame his first Budget, Somerset House will have gathered sufficient data to know if a change in the law is desirable for them, and all sections of the drug-trade will have been able to appreciate to what extent the new conditions have injured business founded upon long-established administrative custom. Then will be the time to speak out, but now is the time to meet the new conditions in a temperate spirit.

Many labels for quinine-and-iron tonic have on them the sentence "Strengthens and purifies the blood," and they have frequently been marked by the Board of Inland Revenue "Not liable to duty." Recently, however, the Board have informed a C. & D. subscriber that the words "and purifies" should be omitted, otherwise liability to stamp-duty will be incurred. This is another deduction from the Marylebone Magistrate's casual remark referred to last week. Those who are not registered chemists should especially note the Board's suggestion, and either erase the words from the labels or stamp the bottles. For registered chemists the change in opinion does not matter; the title of the medicine is a sufficient disclosure of its composition, and under Exemption 3 they have the right to say what they may about the properties of the medicine. We believe it is "known, admitted, and approved" that quinine and iron strengthen and purify the blood.

From the West Indies.

THE periodical reports from heads of Government Departments in our Colonies are invariably interesting reading. The diversity of the things reported upon and the underlying enthusiasm recognisable as existent under the apparently cold collation of bare facts are sufficient to hold the attention of even the casual reader. To the imaginative person they possess a never-failing fascination. These comments are induced by a perusal of the annual report of the Superintendent of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Trinidad. The life of a botanist amid the luxuriance of plant life in the West Indies must surely be an ideal one, and doubtless the Rev. J. H. Hart will be envied by many of his *confrères* of the Linnean Society who have to grub for their specimens in the sparse area of the United Kingdom. In his herbarium at Trinidad Mr. Hart has a total of 12,565 specimens, comprising 5,023 indigenous plants, 1,259 indigenous ferns, 1,222 foreign and colonial ferns, 118 English plants, 1,501 Porto Rico plants, 564 Bolivian plants, and the balance in specimens in various stages of arrangement. An addition to the flora of the island was made during the past year, *Anemopegma grandiflorum*, Sprague, having been discovered.

Beekeeping, too, has its attractions on the island. Several consignments of Italian queen bees were imported during the year and distributed. When united to stocks of the ordinary black bee they soon formed strong hives. Italian bees are found to gather double the quantity of honey that their black brethren do, so the latter are to be dispensed with. During the logwood-flowering season some fine amber-coloured honey was collected, which had a delicious flavour. The wax obtained is of excellent quality. Citronella and lemongrass oils are produced in the island. The *Andropogon* grasses are grown in the Gardens, and the Superintendent, at an agricultural Conference held at Barbados in 1902, submitted the essential oils of *Andropogon Nardus* and *Andropogon Schœnanthus*, which were subsequently examined at the Government Laboratory in Antigua, and gave the following results (recently referred to by Mr. Parry):

For the first oil: $d_{15}^{20} = 0.9034$, $n_D = +0.1'$; aldehyde-content 15.5 per cent.; saponification-number 23, saponification-number after acetylation 183.5, corresponding to a total alcohol-content of about 53 per cent.

For the other oil: $d_{15}^{20} = 0.9315$, $n_D = +3^\circ$; aldehyde-content 48.2 per cent.; saponification-number 31.1; saponification-number after acetylation 69.6, corresponding to 20.2 per cent. $C_{10}H_{18}O$.

Compared with the grass oils obtained from the same plants grown in Jamaica, Mr. H. H. Cousins points out that the sp. gr. of the Jamaica oil of *A. Schœnanthus* is markedly lower. Whereas the Trinidad oil is dextrorotatory, the Jamaica product is levorotatory. The Trinidad oil from *A. Nardus* shows higher sp. gr. and lower dextrorotation than those of the Jamaica oil. During the year a large number of strong layers were taken from the stock trees of *Cinnamomum Camphora*, and one-tenth of an acre has been planted to enable further experiments in growing to be carried out. These were initiated some years ago to ascertain if camphor can be produced with economy and profit from West Indian grown trees. A small plantation of vanilla is doing fairly well, numerous flowers having been produced which are setting freely by the aid of artificial pollination. Plants of *Piper nigrum* grow freely, but many West Indian birds are fond of the ripe fruit, and consequently give trouble. An experimental cultivation of *Theobroma Cacao* furnished an excellent crop. The cacao-planters of the island have seen and benefited by the experiments. A fine variety of the loafah-plant having been secured, a small plot was grown for experiment. The plant grown is the *Luffa ægyptiaca*, and the yield produced was 634 fruits of various sizes, some of the largest being 15 inches in length. They were prepared by being gathered when mature (but not dry-ripe), and then cleaned by taking the fruit to a tank, washing away the rind and succulent matters of the interior, rubbing with strong blue soap, rinsing in clean water, and hanging up in the sun to dry. The crop was sent to London as a trial consignment. These and many other matters not strictly pharmaceutical, are dealt with in Mr. Hart's report, while the accompanying *Bulletin* describes the ravages of the mole cricket (*Scapteriscus didactylus*, Latr.) in Porto Rico. This insect has the habits of a mole, and has been the subject of many "remedies"—mechanical, physical, and repellent. The last-named include the use of carbon bisulphide, creosote, lime, and arsenic. It is curious why carbon bisulphide is recommended; British steamship companies will not carry it. "Mule Milk" is reported on by Dr. Walter H. Ince, F.I.C., F.C.S., the Government analyst. It appears that the Government veterinary surgeon, Mr. F. Pogson, came across a Kentucky mule at San Fernando producing milk at the rate of five or six quarts a day. This is such a rare occurrence that the mule was milked (for which she appeared grateful), and Dr.

Ince found the milk to closely resemble that of the ass, but it differed entirely in composition from the milk of the cow or the mare. It had a low percentage of total solids (9.28) and fat (1.10), was more transparent, tasted sweeter, and decomposed less readily than cow's milk. The ash contained a considerable quantity of phosphates and a trace of chlorides. It should be noted that this was from a Kentucky mule and those who have acquaintance with that animal will appreciate that a milk of so abnormal a character as that described is perfectly consistent with the animal's general behaviour.

September Trade.

THE Board of Trade returns for September show that imports for the month were valued at 45,451,184*l.*, of which 21 $\frac{8}{10}$ millions was food, 11 $\frac{8}{10}$ raw materials, and 11 $\frac{5}{10}$ manufactures. The imports were heavier than in September, 1901, by 7 $\frac{3}{10}$ millions, and than September, 1902, by 3 $\frac{8}{10}$ millions. Chemicals, &c., were less than in 1901, but 21,346*l.* more than in 1902. Our total exports for the month were valued at 23,315,751*l.*, of which manufactured goods made up 18 $\frac{1}{10}$ millions, or half a million less than in September, 1902, and 1 $\frac{1}{10}$ million more than in September, 1901. Chemicals, &c., were valued at 975,511*l.*, being 50,938*l.* more than in September, 1902, which was 66,000*l.* more than in the same month of 1901. The drop of half a million in the September exports is accounted for by ships and cotton. The nine months of the year show imports of 394 millions (5 $\frac{1}{10}$ more than January–September, 1902), and exports 217 millions (7 $\frac{8}{10}$ more). We have imported 1 $\frac{9}{10}$ million more of manufactures and exported 6 $\frac{9}{10}$ millions more, and 8 $\frac{9}{10}$ millions more than in 1901. Every department of our manufactures except telegraph-cables and ships shows increased export-trade, and if the rate continues the year will exceed the high-water mark of 1872, when the value of our exports of manufactured goods was 233 $\frac{4}{10}$ million pounds.

The New Clause.

Our esteemed contributor "Xrayser" takes a different view of the new clause in the Pharmacy Bill from what we do. While calling attention to his statement of the case, we cannot avoid again saying that we think the clause requires further consideration before it is definitely incorporated in the Bill. It expressly states that the Bill shall not interfere with or abrogate any rights granted by Section 16 of the 1863 Act. One of these rights is that of carrying on the business of a deceased chemist in trust by the aid of one duly qualified assistant. There was no indication in the Council debate that the effect of the new clause on this provision had been considered, and we think the Council ought to make sure before going further. The clause is clever, particularly in what it does not say; and if what we said in explanation of it last week is wrong, it follows that the clause will not exempt the persons mentioned in Section 16 from the provisions of the Bill additional to those of the first fifteen sections of the 1868 Act—businesses in trust excepted—since Section 16 enables, not exempts, them. This sort of argument is possible before or after the Bill becomes law. "After" is in the law-courts, and is expensive, so we may as well have it now.

Methylation.

Mr. Thomas Tyrer sends us a note on this, with the remark that it shows how our rivals strive. The prize is open to the world, and doubtless if a Britisher wins it his own dear country may benefit some time. America is with us in all efforts as to alcohol for industries. Correspondents from across the water assure him, he adds, that the "Women's Prohibition Societies" have up to the present been strong

enough to prevent any action being taken there—even as regards methylation. The note is as follows:

A prize of 50,000r. is offered by the Russian Government for a denaturing agent which fully satisfies the undermentioned conditions. The competition is open to foreigners. The denaturing agent must not interfere with the value of the spirit for technical purposes. It must contain no bodies which can give rise to caustic, corroding products—e.g., sulphur, phosphorus, arsenic, halogens. The denatured spirit, when evaporated or burnt, must not leave behind any solid, metallic, or organic residue which might be harmful to the wicks of lamps or to the metal parts of motors. The denaturing agent must possess no poisonous properties. It must make the spirit absolutely undrinkable, but it must not evolve unpleasant or irritating odours which would make the spirit objectionable or dangerous in ordinary use. It must be cheap and powerful, so that it can be used in comparatively small proportions. The denaturing agent must be of such a nature that it can be readily detected by suitable tests. The process of separating the spirit from the denaturing agent must be difficult and so costly as to be unprofitable. The proportion of denatured spirit recoverable by any practical means must be very small, the main bulk remaining undrinkable and containing the denaturing agent in recognisable form. Descriptions, explanations, and samples of 10 kilos., with particulars of cost, must reach the head office for indirect taxes and liquor excise by July 1, 1905.

"Our Anachronistic Pharmacopœia."

That is the U.S.P. according to the *New York Medical Journal*, and the same pen, apparently, has written to the same effect in the *American Druggist*. The burden of the complaint is that the 1900 U.S.P. is not really published in 1900, but somewhere about 1903 or 1904, and

If the next Pharmacopœia is not published until 1904, why should it not be known as the Pharmacopœia of 1904? Our British brethren do not hesitate to designate their Pharmacopœia as of any odd year. We can perceive no advantage in the progression by even decades. And this leads us to ask why we should not have annual or at least frequent supplements to the Pharmacopœia. Why should we have had to wait for years before vaseline was officially named "petrolatum" (an absurd name)? The British Pharmacopœia promptly recognised antipyrine, and the official recognition of tried and approved drugs ought, in our opinion, always to be not too slow. Now that the Committee of Revision has been made a permanent body, always constructively in session—that is, always ready to act—vacancies by death, disability, or resignation to be filled by the remaining members, it is in a position to issue supplements at all times.

Professor J. P. Remington has replied to this and the other criticism in the last issue of the *American Druggist*. If the genial professor were not so indignant as he seems to be we would not have thought there was much in the criticism, especially as it is the fact that the year on the book is the year that the revision begins. However, we fancy something will now be done to modernise the date on the U.S.P., although it is entirely a case of "a rose by any other name," &c.

Bacteriology in South Africa.

The report of the Director of the Bacteriological Institute of Cape Colony (Dr. A. Edington) for the year 1902 has just been issued. It is belated, but Dr. Edington explains that by stating that he has been hampered by pressure of work and lack of a sufficient staff. The last complaint is emphasised by the director, who points out that while in the Indian bacteriological laboratory there are a director, a medical superintendent, three European and three native medical men on the staff, besides twelve clerks, seven men for decanting, one engineer, and twenty-five laboratory assistants, he (Dr. Edington) has only one trained assistant, unqualified in medicine, nine other assistants (all untrained), and a few Kaffirs to help him. The report of work done is voluminous, and if it be any criterion of the actual state of affairs there appear to be very good grounds for Dr. Edington's complaint. The principal investigations undertaken in 1902 were apparently in connection with protective inoculation concerning horse-sickness. An exhaustive series of inoculation-experiments were conducted, with a view to discovering a remedy for this very real evil in South Africa.

The conclusions drawn from the investigations show that in Dr. Edington's opinion a malarial form of horse-sickness probably occurs naturally, and that the blood of horse-sickness, when passed through animals naturally unsusceptible, such as the donkey, ox, and goat, or through "salted" horses, conveys a modified infection of horse-sickness which is malarial in type and is accompanied by the production of malarial parasites in the red corpuscles of the animal. The blood of "salted" horses regularly re-inoculated for several months is dangerous when inoculated into clean horses if the blood be drawn ten or twelve days after the last inoculation; but if the "salted" horses are allowed to rest for a few months and then re-inoculated, their blood, if drawn, will set up a satisfactory degree of fever in other horses without much risk of death. He is convinced that "salted" blood gives a clean horse some protection, but "it has to be carefully remembered that true immunity against horse-sickness can never be obtained." Another interesting fact Dr. Edington brings out is that various endemic diseases in South Africa, and unknown in other parts of the world, imperfectly defined by farmers, are in reality forms of veld-sickness. Thus imapunga, veldziekte, black lung-sickness, rivierziekte, boschziekte, and gall-sickness are probably one and the same disease.

Medical Gleanings.

OPTOCINE

is the name of a retinal extract which is being tried in the treatment of atrophic retinæ with considerable success. The extract is prepared from the eyes of freshly slaughtered animals, and a dose is equivalent to from six to ten retinæ. Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., who prepared optocine on the suggestion of Mr. R. W. Doyne, of Oxford, are endeavouring to isolate an active principle from the retinal extract. In cases of optic atrophy the extract seems to act as a food to the eye, and satisfactory results are recorded in several cases.

BELLADONNA-SUPPOSITORY POISONING.

Dr. J. C. McWalter records in the *Lancet* a case where part of a belladonna suppository was utilised on a child with the idea that it would act like a glycerin suppository. It speaks for the activity of belladonna administered by means of suppositories that the child was nearly poisoned within an hour of administering the half-suppository. Treatment with hot baths, mustard blister, stimulants, and minute doses of paregoric, saved the child's life, and the mother has probably realised that all suppositories have not pretty much the same effect.

LATHYRISM.

LATHYRUS is largely cultivated in India for food, some 358,000 acres in the Central Provinces being devoted to the legume. The use of lathyrus as a food develops, however, under certain conditions, a peculiar disease—lathyrism—which is characterised by an incurable paralysis of the lower limbs. What it is that causes the disease is being investigated at the Imperial Institute, Professor Dunstan so far being of opinion that only certain samples of lathyrus are poisonous, and that the poison is contained in the skin or husk of the seed. Lathyrism shows a greater preference to men than women. Major A. G. Hendley, who writes on the subject in the *British Medical Journal*, is inclined to the belief that, whilst lathyrus may possibly cause paralysis by itself, exposure to wet and cold, to which men are subjected more than women, is the predisposing cause to attacks of paralysis. A similarity in the morbid anatomy and pathology of lathyrism to ergotism lends support to Professor Dunstan's suggestion of the poison being fungoid.

MATURING.—A new method of maturing whisky is reported from America. Twenty thousand barrels of whisky have started by a sailing vessel from Louisville to San Francisco via Hamburg and Bremen. They will be several years en route.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

Williams's Pink Pills.—At the Cape Town Supreme Court on September 1, before the Chief Justice, Sir J. H. de Villiers, and Mr. Justice Kotze, an action was brought by the Dr. Williams's Medicine Company against Mr. A. E. A. Tothill, chemist and druggist, Cape Town, for selling certain pills known as "Dr. Wilson's Pink Pills for Anemic People," as being an infringement of applicant's trade mark. Mr. Schreiner, who appeared for the plaintiff, put in the affidavit of Samuel Williamson Wolfe, Cape Town, manager of the applicant company, which carried on business in Long Street. Respondent was manager of the Swan Pharmacy in Bree Street. Mr. Wilkinson, who appeared for the respondent, read the affidavit of Mr. A. E. A. Tothill, who stated that he had received from Messrs. Lorimer & Co., wholesale and export druggists, of London, a small consignment of Dr. Wilson's pills, which pills appeared in the catalogue of that firm, but he denied that there was any similarity in the appearances of the boxes. There was a difference in size, and the label on Williams's boxes was red, while that on Wilson's was white. The description "pink pills" could not be exclusively used by either. Mr. Schreiner said that the trade-mark was registered under Section 9, Act 22, of 1877, and therefore was not affected by the provisions of the Act of 1895. The style adopted was calculated to deceive the public and infringe the applicant's rights. The words "pink pills" were an essential part of the trade-mark. Mr. Wilkinson said that the question was whether any deception had been practised on the public. As to the user of the word, it was material to consider it with reference to the whole of the title of the trade-mark. There could be no special property in such a word. The Chief Justice: What is the essential part of the trade-mark? Mr. Wilkinson said that the whole of the trade mark must be taken together. It might as well be objected to the use of "doctor" or "pills." The Chief Justice said that the names were very similar, and apparently Dr. Wilson, finding this so, had called the pills "pink" instead of "red," because he knew the other preparation was well known and in demand. Mr. Wilkinson argued that Dr. Williams's name sufficiently distinguished his preparation. The appearance of the boxes was also different. In a chemist's catalogue two other preparations of pink pills were advertised. Mr. Justice Kotze said it was not the educated purchaser who required to be protected, but the unwary who did not know the preparation. The Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said the question in all these cases was whether the design was calculated to deceive the unwary. He was clearly of opinion that in this case the design was calculated so to deceive. The applicant was therefore entitled to an interdict with costs.

Medical Acts.

ELECTRIC VIGOUR.

At Bow Street Police Court, on October 13, Lewis Bailles, of the Dr. McLaughlin Company, 164 Strand, W.C., appeared before Mr. Marsham to two summonses charging him with infringing the Medical Act of 1858 by wilfully and falsely representing himself to be a "Doctor" and a "M.B." Mr. Bodkin, for the Medical Defence Union, said the defendant's real name was Lewis Lamh Bailles. In 1894 he was on the Medical Register as a bachelor of surgery and a bachelor of medicine of Durham; but in July of that year he was sentenced to five years' penal servitude for rape. Consequently his degrees were taken from him, and he was struck off the Medical Register. The Dr. McLaughlin Company advertised what they called their electro-vigour treatment, and recommended an "electric" belt, which was supposed to be a cure for every known and unknown disease. The defendant was described in the advertisements as a qualified medical man. He was alluded to as "the doctor." He gave consultations free, described himself as "L. Bailles, M.A., M.B., &c.," and recommended his patients to buy an electric belt. The price of the belt was ten guineas, but it was generally offered at a considerable reduction. A solicitor's clerk, who had consulted the defendant, said the latter told him he was going to have another doctor to assist him, as, although he had twenty-five typewriters, he could not cope with the correspondence. The belts were absolutely free from electricity, continued counsel, and one might just as well wrap a piece of paper round one's body. In that sense they did no harm, but it was important to remember that the company were asking ten guineas for an utterly useless article. For the defence it was contended that the defendant was only a servant of the company, and

thought he might act in that capacity although he was debarred from acting as an ordinary doctor. He wished it to be understood, too, that he was not responsible for the advertisements issued by the company, or the way in which they described him. The defendant was ordered to pay fines and costs amounting to 46*l*. The money was paid.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

ELDERBERRY CORDIAL AND WINE.

At Bury (Lancs) on October 8, James Wright, Besses o' th' Barn, was summoned for selling "elderberry-cordial" not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded. Anthony Howson, Ramsbottom, was summoned for a similar offence in respect to a bottle of elderberry-wine. In the case against Wright the county analyst (Mr. Collingwood Williams) certified that it was an artificially flavoured syrup, coloured with a coal-tar dye, and contained 5 gr. of salicylic acid per pint. The attention of the Bench was drawn to the label on the bottle, which stated that the cordial was manufactured from the purest ingredients. It was not suggested that the introduction of the salicylic acid was injurious to health, but the prosecution claimed that 5 gr. was unnecessary, and that such a large quantity had been added to conceal the inferior quality of the cordial. Moreover, it was contended that if genuine elderberry-fruit was used it would be quite superfluous to introduce an aniline dye. Mr. Collingwood Williams deposed to his analysis. The sample analysed was not elderberry-cordial. It contained no elderberry at all. In addition to the salicylic acid and coal-tar dye, he found sugar, water, and a flavouring medium which he thought was orris-root. Mr. H. A. Clark, of Spring & Co. (Limited), Brigg, Lincolnshire, manufacturers of fruit-cordials, said if the genuine elderberry-fruit were used no aniline dye or colouring matter of any kind was necessary. His firm had not found it necessary for preservative purposes to put 5 gr. of salicylic acid to a pint of elderberry-cordial. They used less than 2 gr. per pint. Mr. J. F. Henderson, of Fulham, London, manager of Messrs. White & Sons non-alcoholic wine and cordial department, said the elderberry cordial and wine were made with elderberry-essence, which was purchased from the London Essence Company. The cordial was non-alcoholic, and would not keep in good condition without a preservative, and salicylic acid was used for that purpose in the proportion of 5 gr. to the pint. Two years ago the quantity of salicylic acid was reduced to 3½ gr. per pint, with the result that a quantity which had not had a ready sale was returned in a state of fermentation. The aniline dye was necessary to give the cordial a colour. Dr. Frank Ted, public analyst to the City of London, gave evidence of the harmless effect of salicylic acid. Ten grains of the acid per pint was frequently used, he said, in lime-juice cordials. The Bench fined each defendant 20*l*. and costs.

County Court Case.

CURIOUS CLAIM FOR COMMISSION.

At Brighton County Court on October 9, Alfred Ihonnon, of 32 Spardon Road, South Tottenham, sued Priscilla Barker, of Brighton, for 45*l*. commission alleged to be due in connection with the sale of the business of a druggist and photographic dealer carried on by the defendant at Trafalgar Street, Brighton. Plaintiff stated that he had acted as manager to the defendant, who offered him 5 per cent. commission and expenses if he effected the sale of the business. He advertised it, and ultimately the business was sold to defendant's son for 900*l*. The defence was a denial that the plaintiff sold the business, or that he was offered commission to do so. The whole of the terms were arranged between defendant and her son without the plaintiff's intervention. Defendant's son, Percy Barker, deposed that he approached his mother relative to the sale of the business through a traveller's communication, and that he was not approached by the plaintiff. Defendant intimated that she was quite willing to pay plaintiff the cost of advertising, 4*l*. 8*s*. 6*d*., independent of the action. Judgment was entered for the defendant, with costs.

Bankruptcy Report.

Re WILLIAM READER, Forest Hall, Northumberland, Druggist.—The liabilities in this case amount to 407*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*, and the assets are estimated to realise 145*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* The Official Receiver in his observations states that the debtor has intimated that he has no intention of offering a composition to his creditors. An order of adjudication has accordingly been made. The debtor states that he started to trade eight and a half years ago as a druggist, at Forest Hall, under the style of "Reader's Drug-stores." His capital then was stock to the value of 30*l.* to 40*l.* Six years ago he compounded with his creditors, to whom a dividend of 5*s.* in the pound was paid. In order to pay the composition the bankrupt gave a bill of sale, in which his wife joined as grantor, over his furniture, fittings, bottles, &c., to a Mr. John Simm, for the sum of 99*l.* Since that time, according to the bankrupt's statement, Mr. Simm has taken practical control of his business. Goods have been ordered and paid for by Mr. Simm, who also guaranteed payment of about half of the debts scheduled in the statement of affairs. The bankrupt further states that Mr. Simm has regularly collected the takings of the business, leaving him merely a small margin for maintenance. On the other hand, Mr. Simm controverts the suggestion that the bankrupt was otherwise than an independent trader. He alleges that the bankrupt's indebtedness to him has now risen to about 1,000*l.*, mainly caused by moneys paid on behalf of the bankrupt for goods in excess of the moneys received by him out of the takings of the shop. The bankrupt has not scheduled Mr. Simm as a creditor, and denies that he is indebted to him. The bankrupt has kept a cash-book and debtor's ledger only, but the cash-book does not contain all the receipts and payments. The liabilities are owing to fifty creditors all for goods supplied; of these the debts of the four largest creditors, whose claims aggregate 230*l.*, have been guaranteed by Mr. Simm. The following are creditors:

	£	s.	d.
Bainbridge & Co., Newcastle ...	41	3	9
Fauvel Phillips & Co., London ...	29	8	6
Ismay & Sons, Newcastle ...	23	15	0
Johnson, Dodds & Co., Newcastle ...	53	10	8
Latham & Co., Tue Brook, near Liverpool ...	13	10	1
Mackey, Jno., & Co., Newcastle ...	40	0	9
Marks, A., & Son, Newcastle ...	12	3	3
Schmidt, F., Newcastle ...	16	18	7
Sinclair, R., Newcastle ...	40	7	9

New Companies & Company News.

LONDON AND AMERICAN DENTISTS (LIMITED).—Registered in Dublin. Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of dentists and dental surgeons, &c. The first directors are J. Green, B. Green, and M. Goldberg. Registered office, 31 Harcourt Street, Dublin.

ATKINSON BROTHERS, OF LIVERPOOL (LIMITED).—Capital 1,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with G. H. Atkinson for the acquisition of the business carried on by him at 66 Victoria Street, Liverpool, as Atkinson Brothers, and to carry on the business of photographic-material merchants, chemists, druggists, scholastic and general agents, brokers, &c. Registered office, 66 Victoria Street, Liverpool.

ROBINSON'S ENGLISH AND AMERICAN TEETH (LIMITED).—Capital 100*l.*, in 2*s.* 6*d.* shares. Objects: To manufacture and deal in all substances and apparatus and things capable of being used in the practice or business of dentists, and to carry on the business of manufacturers and fitters of artificial teeth, &c. The first directors are L. Robinson, 3 Warrington Crescent, W., gentleman, and F. G. Emanuel, 85 Gracechurch Street, E.C., solicitor. Registered office, 85 Gracechurch Street, E.C.

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL NURSING-HOMES (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (500 deferred). Objects: To acquire and equip any premises in London or elsewhere for use as private hospitals, nursing-homes, or other medical or surgical institutions, to establish and carry on such hospitals, homes, and institutions, and any convalescent homes, dental institutions and the like, and to carry on the business of physicians, surgeons, dentists, chemists, druggists, instrument makers, and storekeepers, &c. The first subscribers are: F. Hares, 21 Lindley Road, Leyton, cashier; G. Crow, 5 Helix Gardens, Brixton, clerk; C. F. Ince, 8-9 Trump Street, Cheapside, E.C., printer; F. Lipsham, 79 Hackford Road, Brixton, S.W., printer; C. W. Butler, 103 Dashwood House, E.C., secretary; G. Davies, 66 Finsbury Park Road, N., merchant; and S. H. Kent, Moorgate Chambers, E.C., incorporated accountant.

No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors; qualification, 50 shares; remuneration, two guineas each per meeting attended.

ELECTROLYTIC ALKALI.—The report and balance-sheet of the Electrolytic Alkali Company (Limited), Middlewich, states that the profit for the past year amounts to 483*l.* No dividend is declared on either the ordinary or preference shares, the above amount being carried forward. The report says this result is largely accounted for by the conflict between foreign and English manufacturers of bleaching-powder, which has occasioned great depression in prices.

A SPONGE AMALGAMATION.—There has been much rumour recently in regard to a proposed amalgamation of sponge houses in London. We are now able to state that such an amalgamation will take place within a few days, three of the largest importing houses being concerned in it, and a limited company is to be formed for the purpose of taking over the combined businesses. The prospectus will be issued as soon as the arrangements and registration are completed, and the trade will have an opportunity of subscribing for the preference shares, which alone will be offered for public subscription.

ANGLO SICILIAN SULPHUR (LIMITED).—The report for the year ended July 31, states that the gross profits for the year amount to 147,991*l.*, to which must be added interest on temporary investments and other receipts, bringing the total to 154,640*l.* After deducting working expenses and writing off 4,617*l.* for depreciation in the guarantee and reserve fund investments, there remains a net profit of 120,513*l.* The half-year's dividend on the preference shares to January 31 has been paid, and it is now proposed to pay the dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum in respect of the second half of the year, making 6 per cent. for the year. Of the balance 20 per cent., or 15,704*l.*, has been credited to the capital guarantee fund, and 39,371*l.* has been added to the reserve against eventual depreciation of stocks of sulphur. After reserving 4,000*l.* for income tax the remainder is divisible as follows:—One-tenth (1944*l.*) to the preference shareholders, which will admit of a further distribution on this class of shares, in addition to the 6 per cent., as above, of $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per share on 700,000 fully-paid preference shares; nine-tenths to the ordinary shares, or 17,500*l.*, being a dividend of 6*l.* per share, or 50 per cent. on each ordinary share.

BOOTS' COMPANIES.—Further issues of 1*l.* 6 per-cent. cumulative second preference shares have recently been made in Boots' Cash Chemists (Lancashire), Limited, and in Boots' Cash Chemists (Western), Limited. These shares (35,000 are issued in each company) rank in priority to the ordinary shares both as to capital and dividend, and come immediately after the existing 6 per-cent. preference shares. They form part of a series of 100,000 like shares. The registered capital of the "Lancashire" company is 250,000*l.* The capital already issued amounts (in 6 per-cent. preference and in ordinary shares) to 148,000*l.*; the new issue will therefore raise that sum to 183,000*l.* In the case of the "Western" company 210,000*l.* is the registered capital, of which 137,000*l.* has been already issued, and the total will now be 172,000*l.* The prospectus of the "Lancashire" company estimates the profits for the year ended September 30, 1903, at 9,500*l.*, while the net profits of the "Western" company are estimated at 10,000*l.* for the same period. It is stated further that the demand for the new shares has been so great that since October 12 application have only been accepted at 2*l.* per share.—At Sheffield on October 13, 24*s.* each was realised for thirty 1*l.*; fully paid 7 per cent. preferred ordinary shares in Boots' Pure Drug Company.

A WRONG IDEA.—Smith: "I understand that your baby is having trouble with his teeth?" Jones: "You've got the wrong impression. It's his mother and myself that are having the trouble."

THE SMELL OF NEW PAINT, so insupportable to many, may be removed, says M. Emile Gautier, in any of the following ways: (1) Place near the newly painted wood one or two large vessels each containing 50 or 60 grams of sulphuric acid. The smell of paint will disappear. (2) A few sliced onions, or two or three pails of water in which a few handfuls of hay have been macerated, will have the same effect.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The Fiscal Question.

SIR,—Mr. Wootton's article suggests to me the good advocate with the bad cause. Mr. Wootton takes as his text the considerable fortune made by Mr. Powers, of Philadelphia, mainly by profits on quinine manufactured by his firm. It is not correct to describe the manufacture as a monopoly. Any person, or combination of persons, who had the capital and could procure the skill, were free to start a factory if they pleased. In this country, under free trade, large fortunes are made out of a favourite brand of an article, but no one suggests that it is the result of a monopoly, and none but the extreme Socialists denounce the millionaire. When the United States Legislature imposed a tax on foreign quinine, they did well. An important industry was built up, gathering around it a force of skilled and unskilled labour, and a valuable contribution was made to the revenue of the country. I can well believe that some of the American newspapers would write a piteous tale of the iniquity of charging people 2s. 6d. for their quinine when they might have been buying it for 2s. We read the same kind of clap-trap in some of the newspapers here. Stuart Mill's timid admission that protection may sometimes be permissible in order to foster infant industries, requires considerable expansion to satisfy present-day requirements. Mr. Wootton says: "Later economists have shown, however, that if the country is suitable for the industry, protection is not required." I have no doubt they have—on the blackboard and at the lecture-table; as a matter of practical politics, certainly not. Indeed, we get a great deal too much of what Carlyle called "the dismal science," what Disraeli called "the dry bones of political economy." One gets wearied of quotations from Adam Smith, given in the same spirit that a Chinese scholar settles a question by quoting Confucius. Some of us are inclined to regard Prince Bismarck and President McKinley as better authorities for present-day needs. "Protection, whatever its merits may be, must be essentially unjust. It taxes the multitude for the benefit of a favoured few." So says Mr. Wootton. Every system of taxation tends to be "unjust." The income-tax is very "unjust." But what lies at the root of those sentences is one of the favourite fallacies of free trade, and it is apparent all through Mr. Wootton's article. This fallacy consists in a belief that no one is interested in a particular industry except the small company of manufacturers concerned in it. Not only are the hundreds and thousands of men employed, and their dependents directly interested, but every individual in the country is interested in every industry carried on in the country. "We are members one of another." And every industry extinguished is a source of weakness, and every industry successfully established is a source of strength. That is what the Germans and the Americans believe, and no doubt they are right. What would be thought of any one who said that nobody was interested in the coal-measures giving out except the coal-masters? It is neither fair nor profitable to go back to ancient codes of Custom duties. No one proposes anything so ridiculous. The details of the tariff would need to be adjusted according to a rational system, and would develop as experience was gained.

Yours, &c.,

D. B. DOTT.

Edinburgh, October 13.

SIR,—I venture, as a merchant of the City of London, to again state facts which will help to throw light on the figures of exports upon which Mr. Chamberlain relied when comparing our trading of to-day with that of 1872.

Any merchant who has known the trade of England thirty, and even twenty-five, years ago will remember that in these

years all produce from the Colonies, and I may say from any parts beyond the seas, came exclusively to the London and Liverpool markets. Continental countries had to purchase in London and Liverpool their wool, cotton, coffee, tea, rice, indigo, spices, drugs, drysalteries, and, in fact, every imaginable commodity. These goods may have represented as much as forty millions when imported, but when landed here, tared, worked, and reshipped, and also charged with the commissions for the importers, bankers, brokers, and exporters, they figured in the exports at forty-five millions at least, thus showing a very handsome trading profit in the statistics. That trade, however, no longer exists, and cannot now be taken into consideration, inasmuch as our colonial friends send their agents all over the Continent plying for orders for goods to be shipped direct to continental ports. No fiscal reform could bring that trade back to this country. It would therefore be proper to deduct this class of trading from the statistics of thirty years ago.

In the early seventies the manufacturing capacity of Germany, France, and other countries was still very backward indeed, and the English-made goods had a ready sale in continental countries, as also in the United States of America. It is only within the last twenty-five years that these countries, through their gathering strength in capital and aptitude, have developed their own manufacturing resources and can now actually supply their own wants. Again, this is a loss which no fiscal change can possibly bring back to us.

If now we deduct these various export resources from the figures for the year 1872 as being lost under natural developments, and compute them together with some fifty to fifty-five millions off the 199 million exports in 1872, we would be left with about 150 millions to represent that class of trading which we were then doing. If then, as Mr. Chamberlain says, the exports in 1902 were 277 millions, it would show that under the selection of free trade our exports have gained within these thirty years some 85 per cent., not allowing for the very considerable difference in the values of the goods. That difference, reckoned at the rate of 140 to 100, would bring the 1902 exports to the figure of an equivalent of 388 millions, or an increase of about 155 per cent. over the exports of 1872.

I am myself, like most merchants, not wedded to free trade, retaliation, or protection, but do favour that fiscal policy which will promise the best possible results. I must, however, say that I would very much regret to part with a policy which has borne such very excellent fruit for our national training, and which also, I believe, will not discredit itself in the near future.

Yours respectfully,

AUG. ZIMMERMANN.

3 Lloyd's Avenue, E.C., October 12.

My Own Fiscal Policy.

Great Britain to allow everything produced in the Empire to enter free of duty.

Great Britain to allow all cereals and raw materials from foreign countries to enter free of duty.

Great Britain to impose the duty as now collected on all existing commodities.

Great Britain to impose an *ad-valorem* duty of 20 per cent. upon all manufactured goods of every kind imported from foreign countries.

G. HAROLD KENT.

August 21.

Sugar of Milk.

SIR,—I note that your report to the effect that Milan exported during 1902 540 tons sugar of milk to the United Kingdom has been taken from the consular report for 1902. Though the Consul makes no claim as to the correctness of his statement, I am afraid his estimate is rather overstated, as in my opinion the import of sugar of milk to this country from Italy during 1902 was nearer 50 tons than 540 tons, the more so as during that period the American manufacturers were the cheapest sellers in this country and did most of the business.

Yours truly,

16 Jewry Street, E.C., October 13.

FREDK. BOEHM.

Opening Stamped Packets of Medicines.

SIR,—In your report last week of the Teesside Association's meeting a very important question is touched upon. Mr. Lee mentions what he considers to be an evasion of the

stamp-duty by dealers opening large stamped packages of Perry's pills and retailing them out in pennyworths in a paper recommending them for various ailments, and accompanied by an empty labelled box. This is a matter which chemists ought to take up and use their influence with the Inland Revenue authorities to put an end to it, else we cannot say where it will go. I take it that there is nothing in the Stamp Act to allow this, but that it is simply a privilege or concession which the Inland Revenue Commissioners have granted, but which they can withhold if they consider the privilege is being abused, and as it undoubtedly is in the above-mentioned instance. The dealers who principally do this sort of thing are grocers and the smaller fry of shopkeepers, and in most cases through competition the pharmacist is compelled to do the same. Why should the Revenue authorities withhold the privilege of opening stamped packages? The following are some of the reasons which suggest themselves to me:

(1) The public will not buy $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ of goods if they can get them in pennyworths, but if they cannot get it in smaller lots, they will, as a general rule, pay the $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ if it is a necessity, which medicines are invariably. The result would be an increased sale, more of them used, and consequently more revenue.

(2) The chemist is allowed to break open and retail dutiable pills or powders, but cannot do so with his own preparations. Is this fair? Why not treat all alike instead of making fish of one and fowl of another?

(3) If a dealer opens a box of dutiable pills at, say, $2s. 9d.$, and sells them out in small quantities at such a rate that they bring in $3s. 6d.$, is not this defrauding the Revenue? Stamp duty is only paid on $2s. 9d.$ instead of $3s. 6d.$, the real retail value.

(4) I was told some time ago that in some districts dealers with no patent medicine licence are in the habit of retailing dutiable medicines in small quantities, the impression being that, because they are not selling them entire and stamped, no licence for stamped medicines is required. This, to me, is clearly an evasion of the Act also.

As this is a question of no small importance to the majority of retail pharmacists, I trust the subject will be thoroughly ventilated at the various associations during the coming winter session, and influence brought to bear on the Inland Revenue authorities to annul the privilege of breaking open stamped packets of medicines. I think the Revenue would benefit, and am quite sure the chemist would; and I do not think the proprietors would complain, because the system of breaking into packages very often leads to fraud, and the public have no guarantee as to what they are getting.

The distinction and privilege already given to chemists are good, but to get this also would be still better. At any rate, it behoves the trade to be up and doing, and ready to defend the coming attack of the Grocers' Association upon the concession already granted to us.

Halifax, October 12. W. R. FIELDING, Ph.C.

SIR,—A matter of considerable importance to chemists living in the outskirts of large towns is the practice of opening stamped packages, and retailing small quantities. This, if not checked, will do some of us infinitely more harm than the big stores have hitherto done. Scores of streets branch off the main roads, and in these may be found dozens of small grocery shops, many with beer off-licences. The grocery once paid all expenses; when it failed, beer was pushed for all it was worth; but later enormous assessments, because of the premises being licensed, have taken nearly all the froth off, and now the occupiers have taken hold of the popular patents, breaking and retailing in smallest quantities, adding our other lines from week to week, till at length many side-streets are becoming veritable nests of miniature drug-stores. I have had considerable correspondence with the authorities on the subject. I do not mention this solely because of the injury done to us as a body, but because of the loss of revenue and the strong temptation to evade the duty and defraud the Government that such concession puts in the hands of persons so disposed. It is little that one individual can do; but I think this is a subject worth considering, with the view of inducing the authorities to prohibit the opening of stamped packages by licensed vendors of patent medicines.

Yours truly,
EDWIN FOWLER.

Hull, October 13.

[Have our correspondents read the conditions under which stamped packets of dutiable medicines may be opened and the contents resold? These were fully set forth in our issue of

October 10, page 625, and we commend them to the members of local associations for careful consideration before the matter is publicly discussed.—EDITOR.]

Stamped Medicines.

SIR,—A very simple and easy method of solving the label-trouble which is perplexing the trade would be to get the Inland Revenue authorities to issue stamps of the following values: $\frac{1}{2}d.$ for a $6d.$ article; $1d.$ for a $1s.$ article; $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ for a $1s. 6d.$ article, and let the others run as they are now. There would then be no need to alter labels; and handbills or other advertising-matter could be used without fear of fines. And we could afford to give a $\frac{1}{2}d.$ stamp on a $6d.$ article, as cough-mixture, corn-plasters, and dozens of other preparations commonly sold. Whereas a $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ stamp would kill the sale, and the tax is too heavy to give away. There would then be no temptation to avoid stamping, and it would also bring in a large revenue. I am sure this would be of immense benefit in poor neighbourhoods to the chemists and their customers.

Yours truly,
180 Old Kent Road, S.E., October 12. E. HOWARD.

SIR,—In all the correspondence with regard to the stamping of medicines, I see no suggestion of any lower-price stamp than $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ on $1s.$ Can we not have stamps of $1d.$ on a sixpenny packet, and a halfpenny stamp on a threepenny packet? A sixpenny tin of dandelion-coffee has a halfpenny stamp affixed.

R. S. EDWARDS.

Redruth, October 13.

[This suggestion has frequently been made during the past forty years.—EDITOR.]

SIR,—I thank you for your answers to my questions in your last issue, but I must say that what seems perfectly clear to you is to me still very doubtful, as I find in your quotations no direct reference to price, but much as to the non-necessity for restamping. One of my firms advertises a good headache-powder at $2s. 6d.$ per gross, subject to discount. I could—it appears to me, according to your reply—ask them to make a gross of these into a $2s. 9d.$ article and sell them to me for $2s. 7\frac{1}{2}d.$ net, and retail them singly at a penny each, or even more. I cannot think that the authorities seriously intend to allow this. *Re* the increased stringency of the authorities in enforcing the Medicine-stamp Act, your correspondents seem to me to be neglecting a small point which will soften to some extent the hardship in connection therewith. The Act states that a medicine is liable if "held out or recommended to the public by any label," &c. I should say that, if a person exposes in a shop-window or showcase bottles of a medicine labelled "Cough-mixture," he is "holding out or recommending to the public"; but if, when requested by an individual to supply a medicine for a cough, he sells one labelled "Cough-mixture," he is not "holding out or recommending to the public." Have not most of us many medicines which have never been advertised, and are not worth advertising, and might we not possibly gain by concentrating our advertising on a few proprietaries which we do stamp? I notice that "Jujubes" are included in Sir Harbottle Grimstone's "Book of Rates." Does this mean the jujube fruit?

Yours truly,
BOLTON, October 13. THOMAS STEVENSON.

[The jujube fruit is meant, we believe.—EDITOR.]

Irish Medicines.

SIR,—The remark which I made at the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland on October 5 regarding the supply of drugs to Boards of Guardians by Irish wholesale houses was incorrectly reported in your issue of last week. I am represented as having said that I did not believe there were the Irish manufacturers at present who could supply the drugs wanted. What I really did say was that "I did not believe the Irish wholesale houses could manufacture all the drugs wanted," which is quite a different thing. In making this remark, it was not my intention to suggest that on this account the Irish wholesalers should not be supported, but rather to point out the fact that most of the drugs supplied by them were not of Irish manufacture. If one wished to criticise my observation it might be stated that there is probably no house in the world that manufactures every drug, as, apart from other considerations,

there are some which are sold in the natural state—for example, senna-leaves. My attention has been called since to the matter by Messrs. P. A. Leslie & Co., of this city, who, I find, manufacture, in addition to the ordinary galenicals, such articles as chloroform, ether, spt. ætheris nitrosi, and a good many chemicals. I was not aware that such extensive manufacture in this line went on here, and I am sure there are a good many Irish pharmacists to whom it will be a surprise to learn this. Still, it is to be hoped that the Irish wholesale houses, whilst seeking preference from Irish Poor-law Guardians, will on their part strive to make as many of the articles as possible; as otherwise, whilst asking the Guardians to support home-manufacture, they themselves are supplying foreign articles, while leaving the Guardians under the impression that they are home-made.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES A. WALSH.

Dublin, October 13.

[Medicines or chemicals made in Great Britain are not, we may point out, "foreign articles."—EDITOR.]

Protected Prices in Liverpool.

SIR,—In view of the present cutting of privately and P.A.T.A. protected articles by certain stores in Liverpool, it is very gratifying to find that at least one firm of manufacturers of a popularly advertised article intend to make a strong attempt to have their terms strictly adhered to.

I enclose a cutting of an advertisement of Messrs. Owbridge's which appears in the local papers. This example is worthy of emulation by other manufacturers who desire to make a genuine endeavour to protect their prices either privately or through the medium of the P.A.T.A. It is a well-known fact that there are some stores here who make a special point of selling all P.A.T.A. goods below the minimum prices, and one firm has gone to the extent of making a display of them in their windows marked at cut prices. I was pleased to see the assurance given in your last issue that the Secretary of the P.A.T.A. intends to give Liverpool some attention. It sadly needs it. Hoping his efforts will be successful,

I am, yours, &c.,

PROTECTIONIST. (177/61.)

[The enclosure is a 6-inch two column advertisement of the following words: "The proprietors of Owbridge's lung tonic cannot guarantee any goods sold under 10½d."]

Christmas Presents.

SIR,—I agree with the remarks of "H₂O" in the *C. & D.* last week that it does seem a pity the wholesale houses do not agree to drop the practice of giving presents to their customers at Christmas. As a retailer I should like to say emphatically that I do not want the firms or companies I deal with to send me *pourboires* at Christmas or any other time. All I expect is that they will deal fairly with me and exercise the ordinary business courtesies; but these I do not consider to include presents. A practice I have adopted of late years is, when thanking the senders for their presents, to ask them as politely as possible not to repeat the gift another year. This generally answers, but in one case it was necessary to return a present sent in spite of the warning of the previous year. The oversight occurred, I am sure, through my name being inadvertently left on the distribution-list. I am told that to some of the poorer members of the craft a bottle of whisky or a cheese is a godsend, but I hope such cases are exceptional. From a wholesaler's point of view it seems to me that the practice could be curtailed or stopped altogether if the various houses would agree amongst themselves to adopt a definite course. Suppose the average per year of new businesses and of businesses changing hands is 20 per cent., let no new proprietor be added to the distribution-list, and the names of all the fairly prosperous chemists also removed; this would at once curtail the list and in time lead to its abolition. A better plan, and one I would like to see adopted at once, would be for all the wholesale houses to come to an agreement not to distribute gifts at Christmas. The arguments are all in favour of this course, as profits in the wholesale trade have diminished just as they have in the retail, and present-day business is transacted on a keener basis. I remember when to ask for a quotation for a particular item would have seemed like an affront to one's drug-house, whilst now, if a chemist can take a quantity of a particular article, he generally gets to know the best prices by this method.

Yours faithfully,

SUBURBAN CHEMIST. (91/19)

Pierre's Eau Dentifrice Stolen.

SIR,—I think it right the trade should be warned, through you, against buying Dr. Pierre's eau dentifrice from unauthorised persons. A window-case of mine, at 5 Green Street, Leicester Square, was broken open early on Monday morning and the contents (about 10% worth of the dentifrice) stolen. The thieves will, no doubt, try to dispose of this to chemists.

Yours faithfully,

G. S. BOUTALL.

52 Marchmont Street, W.C., October 14.

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1903, before formulating Queries.

162/45. *R. V.*—Your "Red Cross Embrocation" label is not and cannot be liable to duty.

161/59. *H. S. F.*—There is nothing to prevent you trading as a company, although not registered as such, so long as you do not place the word "Limited" after the title or otherwise imply that the company is registered under the Joint-stock Companies Act. You can register the label as a trade-mark or at Stationers' Hall, and you will find full particulars as to how to proceed in our DIARY.

162/80. *Plumbi.*—Your embrocation-label is not liable, but that for the elixir is, and cannot benefit by Exemption 3 because it is held out as a nostrum.

117/36. *J. W.*—Registration of ailment-names as trade-marks, and the appropriation of the marks to medicines by an individual vendor, make the medicines chargeable with duty and take them out of Exemption 3 if they are otherwise covered thereby. But such titles as "Pearl, antibilious," and "Pearl, head and stomach," are not registrable as trade-marks, being descriptive.

163/62. *J. T.*—Small doses of effervescing saline, containing mineral alkali, but not substances of an organic nature, may be put up in powders and sold without stamp-duty as cooling-powders. Such preparations are exempt from the provisions of the Medicine-stamps Act in respect to recommendation for human ailments involving stamp-duty.

166/48. *J. S.*—The only labels in your lot which will be liable on December 31 are those for head and stomach pills, antibilious pills, and female pills.

168/55. *Alpha.*—The sale of benzin in pennyworths is permitted so long as retailers do not keep more than one pint bottle open for the purpose at one time.

169/8. *Med. Calf.*—(1) We cannot give you more information about meat-and-malt wine than we have already given. (2) You will find all about the sale of poisons in our DIARY. You may sell strychnine or arsenic to a woman as well as to a man, but in both cases the purchaser must be known to you or introduced by someone who is. (3) The Medicine-stamp Acts do not extend to Ireland. You should reflect before putting questions to us.

176/63. *J. C.*—We consider that if you publish the grateful patient's testimonial respecting the unique character of the artificial teeth you supplied him with you will be using a description which implies that you are specially qualified to practise dentistry. Therefore you will infringe the Act.

166/20. *C. R. S.*—(1) We marked and sent on your labels by post. Liability in regard to ailment-names begins on December 31. Proceedings will not be taken before then. It will suffice in your case to state the composition or give such a reference as "Prepared according to Pharmaceutical Formulas." (2) Penny traders must, of course, stop using ailment-names for compounded articles. Such titles as "Pink ointment No. 1" will be all right, if the vendors do not explain by printed or written handbills that No. 1 implies a remedy for such-and-such an ailment.

167/23. *Alchemist*.—You must first prove that linseed oil is a food or a drug before you bring it under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts as to warranty. The oil is most largely used for other purposes, and like linseed meal and beeswax (which have both been proved to be outside the Acts on certain occasions) the purpose of the sale would be relied upon by the sellers.

169/35. *T. W.*—The Board of Inland Revenue have no power whereby they could permit limited companies and unqualified persons to take advantage of Exemption 3. We have no reason to suppose that if any company or unqualified person break the law, the Board will not enforce it. They do not usually neglect their duty.

169/52. *W. E. M.*—"Sweet little liver-pearls" will be a dutiable title on December 31, but if yours consist principally of podophyllin and dandelion, you will come within the terms of Exemption 3.

170/50. *Subscriber*.—If a syphon burst in the possession of a customer and do damage for which he sues you, he would have to prove that the bursting was due to you. You could deny that and prove that the syphon was of good quality, and the water charged in the customary manner. But why raise problems? If you are in trouble about a burst syphon, give us all the facts and we will endeavour to advise you.

163/61. *Bargor*.—In Ireland the title "apothecary" can only be used by apothecaries. The question as to whether a limited company managed by a Hall assistant can use the title has not been decided.

73/69. *D.n.s.*—(1) If you use the title "chemist and dentist" you will infringe the Dentists Act. (2) See "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

73/27. *A. S.*—A correspondent informed us (see *C. & D.*, August 29, page 396) that labels marked "L. Pills," "H. & S. Pills," and "A. Pills" had been marked by the Board of Inland Revenue "Not liable"; but there is some doubt about the matter. If a customer asks for "head and stomach pills," and you give pills labelled "H. & S. Pills," the Revenue authorities would have something to say.

173/54. *An M.P.S.*—Although your proposed label for purified castor oil does not describe it as a medicine for any disorder or complaint of the human body, it is a fact that castor oil is a medicine, and you are not prepared, we presume, to prove that you do not sell it as such. That being so, the label will render the oil liable to duty, because it is a compounded preparation, for which you claim proprietary rights (name in the possessive case). The black-draught label would be liable for the same reason. It is not a dutiable statement to say of such medicines that they are superior in flavour or taste to the ordinary products, but you must say nothing to imply that you only know how to make them. We do not consider the following statement dutiable:

For children it is invaluable, the flavour of the oil being so pleasant that they take it without the least reluctance.

Apart from all that, however, you as a qualified chemist may sell the articles free of duty if their composition is adequately revealed.

167/55. *Apotheker*.—The letter which you send was wrong, but New South Wales now recognises the Minor-examination certificate. In the States in South America where it is worth an Englishman's while going the certificate is accepted as evidence of training, but it is necessary to pass the State examination, and for that a knowledge of Spanish is necessary. The certificate is not accepted for registration without examination in any of the countries on the Continent of Europe. It ensures registration without examination (or but a formal one in a few cases) in any part of the British Empire except Canada and Ireland. It is good for any part of the East where British power has a say, but not in the Philippines. The United States of America do not uniformly accept it, but any man who has passed the Minor has little difficulty in getting through the Board of Pharmacy examination there.

175/71. *Anxious*.—"Chest-relievers" is a dutiable title for a bronchial medicine. So will "Chest-tablets" be on December 31. If the headache-powder is an entire drug (e.g., phenacetin) it is exempt from stamp-duty; if a compound, it will be liable on December 31, as also will be "Head-powders."

177/56. *China*.—Collodion made with methylated ether may be legally used for making any unofficial preparation. The Board of Inland Revenue do not interfere with its use under any circumstances.

169/40. *W. M.*—The following are now considered dutiable titles: "Cooling-powders," "Female-pills," and "Mother's Friend for Infants." As "Laxative Pills" is considered to be dutiable, we presume "Astringent Mixture" will be also.

179/66. *Rev.*—A chemist's business may be continued in trust on behalf of his orphans. See the article, "Pharmacy-law," in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for particulars.

173/87. *A. D.*—Your labels have been marked and returned. In the case of the "Toothache-essence" put on the label "Pharmaceutical Formulas." The formulas for all the pills that you mention are being inserted in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY. Read the editorial in this issue.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

25/9. *Arthur*.—The Spectacle-makers' Company and the British Optical Association give diplomas in optics. We gave particulars of these examinations in the Educational Number, August 15.

163/35. *Eugenol*.—Instruction in the Polarimeter and Refractometer.—Apply to the educational establishments which advertise in the *C. & D.*, and, failing a suitable reply, advertise your requirement in the Coloured Supplement.

178/29. *Q.*—You will find particulars in regard to opticians' examinations in our issue of August 15, and they will explain to you what "optician by examination" means.

170/17. *A Would-be Minor Student* writes on both sides of the paper. He is reminded that those in the trade who had not passed the old Preliminary examination before the new one came into force had two or three years' warning.

171/34. *W. C. W. E.*—You will find a formula for eau de lue in "Pharmaceutical Formulas." It is as useful in snakebite as would be spirit of sal volatile. Of the two we would rely on the latter, and very little on that.

147/21. *Vaseline*.—Ointments containing resin and vaseline are erratic, and they are best allowed to cool slowly and stirred constantly. You will find some information on the subject in the "Art of Dispensing," and Mr. Peter Boa dealt very fully a few years ago with the question of stirring and not stirring.

176/69. *Country Chemist*.—(1) A fair charge for supplying a doctor with a dispenser one or two hours a day is 1s. 3d. per hour. (2) To make charcoal smoulder away when lighted steep in a 1-in-10 solution of nitre, and dry.

129/50. In Birmingham "Potato Drops" means elixir proprietatis—i.e., dec. aloes co. conc.

147/40. *What is This?*—Probably a strong solution of hydrarg. perchlorid., which has the effect described. This can easily be determined by adding a little of it to liq. calcei.

171/69. *Subscriber*.—To give Tweed a Smoked Od cr like Harris tweed, the most successful plan is to take some partly burned peats, and put them in tanks of water in which the goods can be immersed for a few hours. A good deal of the success of the operation depends on the partial burning of the peat.

158/1. *Altior*.—Stick Salve for the breast:

Emp. plumbi	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Emp. picis	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Emp. resinæ	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Adipis	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Pulv. camphore	...	...	...	...	3ij.

Mix the camphor with the lard and stir into the melted plasters. When well mixed, pour into water and knead into sticks as the mass cools.

150/57. *J. L.*.—Baldness-application:

Resorcin.	...	...	...	...	3j.
Inf. senegæ conc.	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Acet. cantharid.	...	...	...	...	3j.
Glycerin.	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Eau de Cologne to	...	...	...	...	3viij.

Use night and morning, with friction for three minutes.

169/20. *G. Co.*.—Chocolate-essence (for flavouring):

Powdered chocolate	...	...	...	...	4 oz.
Syrup	...	...	...	...	5 oz.
Glycerin	...	...	...	...	6 oz.
Distilled water	...	...	...	...	3 oz.

Mix well in a mortar, and transfer to a water-bath. Heat for half an hour, make up to 32 oz., add 1 oz. essence of vanilla, and after standing for twenty-four hours filter.

167/25. *G. T. (Turin)*.—Rosemary Hair-wash:

Pulv. boracis	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Glycerini	...	...	...	...	3j.
Liq. ammoniæ	...	...	...	...	3j.
Spt. rosmarini	...	...	...	...	3iss.
Aquæ rosæ ad	...	...	...	...	3xvj.

Dissolve the borax in the glycerin and water, add the other ingredients, and filter bright through a filter sprinkled with mag. carb levis.

168/50. *Forester*.—It will be necessary to take a course on metallurgical chemistry to qualify for the position of Assayer to a Gold Mine. Such a course can be had at Birmingham University, and in some other large towns. Capability, rather than examination diplomas, is the chief recommendation in obtaining a berth such as you mention.

Information Wanted.

173/23. Makers of ear-cones (cocaine, &c.).

173/15. Makers of nickel-top pomade-jars, capsule-stopped patent 4,918.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Tuesday, October 20.

Braiford Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, Darley Street, at 9 P.M. Discussion on "Medicine Stamp-duty."
Hull Chemists' Trade Association, 22 Market Place, Hull, at 9 P.M. Postponed from last week.

Wednesday, October 21.

Western Chemists' Association, Norfolk Hotel, London Street, Paddington, W., at 9 P.M. First meeting of the session.
Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 P.M. Mr. F. W. Millett will continue his report on "The Recent Foraminifera of the Malay Archipelago," and there will be an exhibition of British Hydrachnidæ by Mr. C. D. Soar.
Nottingham Chemists' Association, Calvert's Café, The Woodlands, Long Row, at 9. Discussion on the "New Interpretation of the Medicine stamp Acts," introduced by Mr. F. R. Sergeant.

Thursday, October 22.

London Chemists' Association (North London Branch), Hackney Town Hall, Mare Street, Hackney, at 3.30. Annual reports. Description of a British Pharmaceutical Conference, by Mr. R. B. Betty.
Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 P.M. "The Pharmacy and Materia Medica of the Seventeenth Century," by Mr. S. C. G. Teedy.

Friday, October 23.

Poor-law Dispensers' Association, Surrey House, Victoria Embankment, W.C., at 8 P.M. Annual general meeting.

The annual supper of the Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association has been arranged for October 31. Mr. F. Rose, The Boscombe Pharmacy, Bournemouth, has charge of the details.

Royal Waterloo Hospital, Waterloo Bridge Road, S.E.—On October 26 the ceremony of laying the memorial stone of the new hospital buildings, and the presentation of purses to the Duchess of Albany, will take place.

London Drug Statistics.

THE following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses for the month of September, 1903, and to the stocks on September 30.

	September		Stocks		1903	
	Landed	Delivd.	1903	1902	Imprtd.	Delivd.
Aloes..... cs, &c.	113	115	1,010	1,776	1,209	1,676
"..... gourds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aniseed, star cs	—	—	7	7	2	2
Arrowroot..... brls	1,021	1,211	13,845	13,633	11,322	9,728
"..... bxs & tins	275	85	1,130	1,175	640	937
"Balsams" cks, &c.	5	1	782	703	653	497
Calumba bgs	42	330	641	1,325	178	927
Cardamoms .. cs, &c.	621	759	2,540	1,946	6,029	5,407
Cinchona pkgs	1,278	1,132	6,976	9,019	10,570	11,693
Cochineal bgs	—	65	498	773	179	452
Cubebs "	—	37	1,130	1,169	101	264
Dragon's blood .. cs	6	32	130	52	248	167
Galls..... pkgs	382	691	5,518	6,253	4,896	5,827
Gums—						
Ammoniacum .. "	—	7	12	54	6	29
Animi "	75	134	257	—	1,013	1,259
Copal "	6,064	5,325	35,332	19,042	51,865	46,588
Arabic "	3,338	1,903	10,233	11,523	14,933	13,376
Asafetida "	—	137	132	684	534	597
Benzoin "	20	295	1,533	1,139	2,515	1,985
Damar "	458	370	2,566	2,713	3,133	2,820
Gallbanum .. "	—	—	3	—	—	—
Gamboge "	38	8	65	66	170	147
Guaiaicum .. "	—	—	45	74	55	77
Kauri .. tons, net	257	232	748	1,164	1,903	1,865
Kino pkgs	—	4	147	173	16	41
Mastic "	—	—	9	14	27	26
Myrrh, E.I. "	54	14	148	88	226	146
Olibanum "	—	454	1,933	2,619	4,249	3,293
Sandarac "	—	41	1,279	1,822	675	950
Tragacanth .. "	463	533	3,578	2,945	9,773	8,193
Ipecacuanba—						
Matto Grosso .. "	117	17	421	—	516	612
Minas "	17	27	103	703	—	—
Oartagena..... "	6	8	253	—	—	—
E.I. "	2	19	8	550	258	250
Jalap bl	—	10	111	115	133	127
Nux vomica..... "	—	—	23	164	82	127
Oils—						
*Aniseed, star .. cs	—	78	659	757	175	331
*Cassia "	51	17	345	237	343	244
*Cocao-nut..... tons	43	85	523	150	1,150	831
Olive cks, &c.	81	201	722	1,483	1,600	2,015
Palm..... tons	—	7	—	7	59	71
†Quinine lbs	125	5,412	194,341	213,570	13,300	44,751
Rhubarb chts	41	64	307	531	264	637
Sarsaparilla bls	107	103	150	139	1,005	938
Senna bls, &c.	723	559	1,612	2,164	2,034	3,175
Shellac cs	4,695	8,155	15,223	23,803	46,931	54,775
Wax, bees' pkgs	654	473	2,173	1,793	4,224	3,457
" Japan .. cs, &c.	51	39	330	244	443	339

* Stocks lying at Smith's Wharf and Brewer's Quay are not included in this return.

† Includes the quantity at Red Lion, Bull, and Smith's Wharves; also the Docks.

‡ Corrected.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: October 15.

PENDING the heavy offerings of "new and old" drugs at auction to-day, business generally has ruled quiet, fluctuations being of a minor order. The speculation in shellac and cloves, however, has gone on uninterruptedly, and the 200s. figure has been paid for the former article for delivery. Zanzibar cloves have been irregular, but dearer, on balance, with a large speculative business. The 8-per-cent. advance in the unit at the Amsterdam cinchona-auctions has not affected the makers' price for quinine, and in second-hands the market has been quiet and tending easier. American peppermint oil is being depressed in the interests of "bears," and lower prices have been accepted. Gum sandarac has been "cornered," with the result that prices have advanced considerably. Citric acid, tartaric acid, and cream of tartar are all easier inclined. Opium is almost a dead-letter, both here and in Smyrna. The following are the principal alterations of the week, including those which took place at the drug-auctions:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Coca-leaves Cumin-seed Ergot Honey (Jam.) Ipecacuanha Sandarac Sarsaparilla (Mex.) Shellac	Calumba Golden seal Grindelia robusta	Acid, citric Acid, tartaric Arrowroot Myrrh Oil, euca- lyptus Sarsaparilla (Hond.) Senna (Alex.) Wax, bees' (Jam.)	Areca Cardamoms Dragon's-blood Ginger (Jap.) Oil, pepper- mint

ACID, CITRIC, is easier at 1s. per lb.

ACID, TARTARIC.—English is unaltered at 1s. 1d. per lb. and foreign is rather easier at 1s. to 1s. 0½d.

ARROWROOT.—At auction, fair manufacturing St. Vincent sold at 2d. per lb. Bermuda and Natal descriptions were withdrawn.

BALSAM, CANADA.—The spot market is bare of supplies, and importers now quote 2s. The last price paid for casks appears to have been 1s. 10d. per lb., c.i.f.

CASCARA SAGRADA remains quiet, holders still asking 90s. to 95s. on the spot. Re-shipments have been made to New York from Hamburg.

CHAMOMILES are slow of sale, and prices are unaltered.

CINCHONA.—The exports from Java during the first half of October amounted to 568 000 A. lbs. against 1,070 000 A. lbs. last year. In auction 52 serons of Crown bark were offered and sold at from 9d. to 10d. for Loxa, and 10½d. for Huanoco. A further 16 serons of Crown bark were offered, and sold at 10d. per lb. Good bright Cartagena quill was limited at 5½d. per lb., and for 2 bales of Maracaibo bark a bid of 3d. is to be submitted.

CREAM OF TARTAR is lower, 98-per-cent. foreign powder offering at 85s. per cwt., and 95-per-cent. 83s. with first white crystals at 81s. and powder 83s.; for 99-per-cent. powder 85s. 6d. has been paid for ½-ton lots.

GENTIAN.—Spot prices are still below the parity of those ruling abroad, as nothing appears to be obtainable under 18s., f.o.b., in 5 ton-lots, which is quite equal to 20s. London terms.

GOLDEN SEAL.—Holders now ask 3s. 5d. net on the spot, an advance of a further 1d.

GRINDELIA ROBUSTA is dearer at 4½d. per lb., c.i.f.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Fine *South European* decorticated root is very scarce and unobtainable.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—There is a continued inquiry, but extreme prices and scarcity of fine oil reduces the business to current requirements only. Prices are unaltered, but firm, finest Norwegian oil offering at from 500s. to 520s. per barrel, according to brand, with secondary brands quoted 455s. to 460s. Good Newfoundland non-freezing is still selling in small lots at 475s. per barrel. Our Bergen correspondent writes on October 10 that the cod-liver oil market is very strong, with a rising tendency. The holders of finest non-congealing quality are very reserved, and 475s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen, would probably be obtainable for such quality. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 1,910 barrels, against 7,435 barrels at the corresponding date of last year.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—There has been evidence of a "bear" interest at work this week, and the market is being depressed in consequence. The move is said to be engineered from the United States. American HGH has been offered at 15s. 3d. to come forward, and tin oil has been sold at 12s. per lb. landed terms by one firm, who continue to offer thereat. Outside of this the position is strong, and a fair business has been done, including HGH at 15s. 9d. to 16s., and subsequently at 15s. 3d., spot. JBH pure is quoted 12s. 4½d., c.i.f., and *Stilwell's* at the same price. Japanese dementholised oil is flat and easier at 7s. 3d. per lb., spot, at which business has been done. To-day cables from New York quote HGH at 15s. 3d. London terms for January-February delivery. In auction, 5 cases of Japanese dementholised (worked) were taken out at 7s. 3d., there being no response to 6s. 9d.

OPIUM.—All descriptions are exceedingly slow of sale, and prices are unchanged.

CONSTANTINOPLE, October 9.—The market keeps quietly steady, and sales of druggists' have been made during the past week at the parity of 8s. 4d. per lb., f.o.b. Prices are down to a low level, and the slightest resumption of buying, or continued absence of rain during the next fortnight, would bring about a better feeling. The sales for the week amount to 13 cases good druggists' at 8s. 4d.

QUININE.—Although the unit at the Amsterdam bark-sale improved by 8 per cent. (the average unit paid being 745s. per half-kilo. against 690c. at the previous auction), no alteration was made in the makers' price of quinine, as was anticipated in some quarters. It remains at 1s. 1d. The secondhand market has been much quieter this week, and is the turn easier, with small sales of December delivery at 1s. 0½d., and March at 1s. 1d. per oz.

The exports of quinine and quinine salts from Germany during the seven months ending July were as follows:

	1901	1902	1903
Kilos. ...	123,000	109,000	92,000

The result of the tender held at Batavia on October 14 is as follows: Of 3,279 kilos. Ed. II., 120 kilos. were sold, at an average of 19½d. per kilo. (about equal to 7½c. Amsterdam unit), against 17.30f. per kilo. paid at previous tender. The next tender to be held at Batavia will take place on November 18.

SANDARAC.—Some quiet buying has been going on within the past fortnight on speculative account, with the result that the supplies on the spot, which were only small, have been "cornered." Prices have now advanced to 70s. per cwt., business having been done at 67s. 6d., and still higher prices are looked for. The importers state there is no new crop coming forward.

SEEDS.—Russian *Anise* is scarce and dear at 22s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. Dutch *Caravays* steady at 21s. 6d. to 22s. per cwt. Morocco *Coriander* has advanced; 13s. 6d. to 14s. per cwt. is now the quotation. *Cumin* dearer at 23s. to 25s. per cwt. for Mogador, and 25s. to 32s. for ordinary to fine Malta. *Canary* steady, but quiet at 50s. per quarter for

Turkish. Fine descriptions are extremely scarce, and are quoted at 60s. to 80s. according to quality. *Peenugreek* slow at 8s. per cwt. *Linseed* dull at 37s. for Morocco, and 40s. for fine Dutch.

SHELLAC continues to advance. On the spot there has been a fair demand, up to 190s. to 195s. having been paid for TN O anga. Several hundred cases blocky GAL Garnet have also been sold at 145s. to 147s. 6d., and for AC Garnet 170s. was quoted on Wednesday. For arrival, TN has been sold at 188s. to 189s. for October-December shipment; also GAL Garnet at 145s. for November-January shipment. Futures have been sold up to 198s. for October delivery, November at 198s. 6d., January at up to 193s., and December 198s. to 200s., closing on Wednesday with sellers at the higher figure.

SPICES.—At auction on Wednesday the fair supplies offered met with a quiet demand. *Cochin Ginger* sold without reserve at 45s. to 46s. 6d. for ordinary to fair small, and 42s. to 42s. 6d. for good small cut. Ordinary brown rough Calicut sold without reserve at 34s. 6d., and 249 bags lined Japanese at 25s. to 25s. 6d. for part slightly mouldy, also without reserve. Good *Tellicherry Pepper* was brought in at 6½d., and *White pepper* sold at 9½d. for good, 10½d. to 10¾d. for fine Singapore; fair Siam was bought in at 9½d. *Pimento* was bought in at 4d. for fair; privately sales have been made at 3¾d. *Nutmegs* and *Mace* were mostly bought in at firm prices. Fair broken *Cassia lignea* sold at 45s., and *Cinnamon-quillings* at 6d., with broken quill and millings 7½d. per lb. *Cloves* have had another active week at fluctuating prices, but dearer on balance, several thousand bales of Zanzibar having changed hands for speculation, including October-December delivery at 6½d. to 6¾d., and subsequently at 6½d. January-March delivery has been sold at 6½d. to 6¼d. per lb., and March-May at 6¾d., the market closing quiet on Wednesday. Spot has changed hands at 6½d. Thirteen cases of fair Penang were bought in at auction at 9½d. per lb.

London Drug-auctions.

THERE was an exceptionally heavy supply of new and old drugs offered at the auctions to-day, and, although the demand was at times dragging, a fair proportion of the goods was sold, the chief alterations being as follows: Cape aloes was about steady, considering that the quality was not quite so good as that offered at the last auction, and Curaçao aloes was unaltered. Sumatra benzoin was quiet, but unaltered. Calumba sold at dearer rates, and coca leaves were irregular, but dearer. The large offerings of cardamoms met with lower prices, except in the case of fine, which were about steady, owing to sea city. Dragon's blood sold at rather lower prices, as there is now a more abundant supply. Ergot and gamboge were neglected in auction, and both articles are coming to hand more freely. Jamaica honey was again dearer, with a notable absence of fine quality. Both Matto Grosso and Minas ipecacuanhas were dearer, compared with the last public auction, and a parcel of East Indian was withdrawn. Picked myrrh sold rather cheaply, and a parcel of eucalyptus oil sold at rather under the rates asked privately. Rhubarb was firmly held, in view of the lessened stocks and imports, but there were no buyers. Honduras sarsaparilla of good quality sold cheaply, and other descriptions showed no material change. About a thousand bales of Tinnevely senna were offered, and met with a strong competition, especially medium grades, at fully previous prices. Beeswax generally was unaltered, with perhaps an easier tendency in Jamaica. The following table shows the amount of goods offered and sold:

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aconite (Jap.)	12	0	Balsam—		
Albumen	2	0	Cocaiaba	32	0
Aloes—			Peru	12	0
Cape	11	11	Tolu	9	2
Curaçao (boxes)	91	65	Benzoin—		
Socotrine	10	0	Palembang	28	0
Zanzibar	18	0	Siam	21	6
Ambergris	11	3	Sumatra	244	58
Ammoniacum	6	1	Buchu	36	0
Antimony	54	0	Calumba	246	85
Annat-to-seed	3	1	Canella alba	12	0
Araroba	9	0	Cannabis indica	12	*12
Areca	173	10	Cardamoms	744	582
Argol (Cape)	14	5	Cascarilla	33	5
Asafetida	7	0	Casin	19	0
Asphaltum	61	0	Castorum	1	0

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
C-vadilla-seed	4	4	Oil—		
Chamomiles	2	0	lemongrass	33	*5
Ciuchona	89	68	lime (W.I.)	14	12
Civet	3	0	nutmeg	2	0
Coca-leaves—			orange	14	14
Ceylon	54	41	peppermint	25	0
Truxillo	2	0	rose (E.I.)	11	0
Colocynth	33	3	sassafras	8	0
Croton-seed	15	0	vetivert	1	0
Cubebs	37	0	wintergreen	2	0
Cuttle fish bone	43	8	Orange-peel	4	0
Dragon's-blood	33	5	Orchella-weed	9	0
Elemi	10	0	Orris	12	0
Ergot	31	0	Patchouli	13	0
Galangal	65	0	Quillaia	25	0
Gambier (cubes)	9	9	Rhubarb	60	9
Gamboge	21	0	Rose petals	1	0
Gentian	10	0	Sarsaparilla—		
Guaiacum	2	0	Honduras	25	9
Gum acacia	47	1	Lima Jamaica	68	8
Honey—			native Jam.	11	0
Californian	2	0	Scammonium	18	0
Jamaica	131	119	Scammony-root	335	0
New Zealand	18	0	Senega	3	0
Ionone (oz.)	60	0	Senna—		
Ipecacuanha—			Alexandrian	62	24
Cartagena	6	0	Tinnevely	987	953
Rio (Matto Grosso)	20	3	Soy	50	0
" (Minas)	21	8	Squills	10	*5
Kino	12	0	Storax	13	0
Kola	61	37	Strophanthus	10	0
Lime juice	23	4	Tamarinds	64	0
Menthol	9	1	Tonka-beans	5	0
Musk—			Turmeric	518	49
grain	4	0	Turtle (dried)	1	1
Tong. pod	2	*2	Wax (bees)—		
Yunan	1	0	Australian	38	0
Myrrh	27	1	Central Amer.	12	0
Nux vomica	89	83	East Indian	140	6
Oil—			Jamaica	42	9
bay	1	0	Madagascar	2	2
camphor	50	0	Morocco	54	0
cassia	6	0	Mozambique	3	3
castor (E.I.)	79	0	Rangoon	24	0
cedar wood	7	0	Spanish		
cinnamon	4	0	(bleached)	13	0
citronella	1	0	(yellow)	19	0
eucalyptus	72	22	Zanzibar	193	7
geranium (Bour.)	1	0			

* Sold privately.

ALOE.—Cape sold at about steady but irregular prices, 51s. per cwt. being paid for good hard bright seconds, and 43s. 6d. to 43s. for fair seconds, slightly drossy; and fair softish, slightly dull and drossy, 42s.; with common drossy at 33s. to 38s. per cwt. Curaçao sold at steady prices, fair livery, part capey, selling at from 19s. 6d. to 21s. Good brown livery brought 25s.; and dull dark 16s. 6d. to 17s. Socotrine, in kegs, was limited at 70s. per cwt. A feature of the Cape aloes was a new mark, "Lennon."

AMBERGRIS.—Good black balls of fair flavour sold at from 25s. to 27s. 6d. per oz.

AMMONIACUM.—Dark blocky sold at 25s.

ARECA.—Still in large supply, and slow of sale. For 10 bags bold, part unhusked, 6s. per cwt, "subject," was accepted; 10s. is about the value of good sound.

ARGOL.—Dull and dusty Cape sold at 49s. per cwt.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Good bright filtered Maranham was limited at 1s. 8d. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU in large tins sold at 11½d. per lb. for softish.

BENZOIN.—A case of fine white almondy Siam block was taken out at 20½d., a bid of 14½d. being refused. Good clean siftings in block (5 cases) were taken out at 15½d., and 2 cases dark hard siftings in block sold at 4½d. 12s. 6d., and darker ditto at 4½d. 2s. 6d. Two cases of small dark almonds in shivery block sold, without reserve, at 7½d. 7s. 6d. Sumatra sold at unaltered rates, good fair seconds with small to bold almonds, slightly false-packed, selling at 6½d. 5s.; fair seconds at from 5½d. 12s. 6d. subject, to 5½d. 15s., and ordinary at 5½d. per cwt. Palembang in block was limited at 50s.

BUCHU.—Good greenish round leaf was limited at 9½d., a bid of 9½d. being refused. Yellowish and stalky was offered at 8½d.

CALUMBA sold at higher prices, a parcel of 25 bags brown natural sorts selling at 16s., and 60 bags without reserve at from 12s. 6d. to 13s. for washed, part mouldy sorts, with some yellowish. Fair clean yellowish was held at 20s. per cwt.

CANNABIS INDICA.—The offerings (12 robbins) of very brown tops had been sold privately.

CARDAMOMS.—Buyers were surfeited with cardamoms to-day, the bulk of the offerings being of medium and common grades, which met with a decline of 2d. to 3d. per lb.; fine quality, however, of which only a few cases were offered, was about steady, as were decorticated *Seeds*. The following prices were paid: Ceylon-Mysore, extra bold pale, well bleached, slightly split, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d.; extra bold, slightly yellowish, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d.; bold pale, slightly split, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d.; bold round, dullish, 1s. 6d.; bold medium pale, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; medium palish, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d.; small and medium pale, 9½d. to 10d.; peas, 8d. to 8½d.; small brown, 7d.; brown splits and pickings, 7½d. to 8½d. Bold splits 1s. 3d., fair splits 10d., and ordinary 8d. to 8½d. per lb. Ceylon-Malabar, lean brown, 8½d. to 9d. per lb. Seeds were in demand at 1s. to 1s. 1d.

CASCARILLA.—Siftings sold at 35s. per cwt.

CEVADILLA-SEED from Tumaco sold at 35s. per cwt.

COCA-LEAVES sold at rather irregular, but dearer, prices, several parcels of Ceylon leaves changing hands at 1s. 4d. for good greenish, and in one instance this price was paid for brownish; for fair 1s., subject, to 1s. 2d. was paid Medium and brown sold at 7½d. to 10d., and dull at 5d. per lb., subject to seller's approval.

COLOCYNTH.—A bale of good Turkey pulp, free from seed, was held at 4s. per lb., and for a case of fair pale Turkey apple 1s. 5d. was paid.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—A large supply was offered, the bulk of which consisted of medium and low grades. Fair bright lump brought from 6d. 5s. to 6d. 10s. per cwt.

ELEMI.—Fair pale Manila is obtainable at from 55s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt.

ERGOT.—Previous to the auctions there had been a fair demand for the United States, up to 1s. 9d., c.i.f., having been paid for Spanish. The drug is now more abundant on the spot, as 3 parcels were offered to-day; 1s. 9d. was the highest bid obtainable for a parcel of good sound Spanish of new crop, and the lot was taken out at 2s. 2d.

GAMBOGE.—An unusually large quantity of this article was offered, but there were no buyers at the high prices asked. Good rough Siam pipe, partly blocky and slightly damp, was bought in at from 16d. to 17d., the best bid being 14d. 15s. in one instance.

GENTIAN.—For 10 bales a bid of 18s., gross for net, is to be submitted.

HONEY.—Jamaica was dearer again. Out of the total offerings only a few packages of good quality were shown, and these sold at from 25s. 6d. to 28s. per cwt. for nice pale to yellowish thick. Dark red liquid, in casks and barrels, sold at from 20s. to 22s., and very dark at from 18s. to 19s.

IONONE.—A parcel of 15 bottles was limited at from 14s. to 18s. per oz.

IPECACUANHA.—Previous to the auctions a few sales of Rio had been made at up to 5s. 3d. per lb., and one of the two largest importers is holding a large quantity off the market, anticipating better prices, it being said that 6s. will probably be the price ere long. There has been some inquiry for Cartagena, first-hand holders asking 4s. 2d., and in second hands 4s. 6d. In auction 21 bales of Rio (Minas) were offered, of which a few bales sold at 5s. for fair native picked, being about 3d. dearer than the prices paid at the last auction. A few bales of Rio (Mattogrosso) were also sold at 5s. 3d. for fair, being unchanged with the prices paid privately, but about 6d. dearer since the last sale. Only 5 bags of Cartagena were offered, and taken out at 4s. 6d. A string of 35 bales East Indian was catalogued for auction, but withdrawn, as the question of sea-damages had not been settled in time. They will be offered at the next auction. Some of the bales were badly sea-damaged and rotten.

KOLA.—Fair West Indian sold at from 5d. to 5½d., and mouldy at from 2d. to 3½d. For good bright 5½d. was wanted.

MENTHOL.—Kobayashi brand was obtainable at 22s. 6d. per lb., and a case of Yazawa sold at 21s. for rather greyish crystals.

MUSK.—Two cad lies of Tinquin brown pod, part mouldy and slightly wormy, had been sold privately.

MYRRH.—A case of good pale picked gum sold at 6l. 10s. per cwt., being easier.

NUX VOMICA.—Fair small seed from Malabar sold at 7s. 6d. per cwt.

OIL, CAMPHOR, was limited at 45s. per cwt.

OIL, CASSIA, is tending firmer, and for 80 to 85 per cent. 3s. 3d. is asked on the spot.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—A parcel of 10 cases, guaranteed to contain 68 per cent. eucalyptol according to Umney's analysis, sold at from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. Twelve cases of commercial Australian oil sold at 1s.

OIL, LEMONGRASS, partly sold at 5½d. per oz.

OIL, LIME.—Fair West Indian distilled sold at 1s. 5d. and hand-pressed was held at 3s. 3d. to 3s. 6d. per lb.

OIL, NUTMEG, was offered at 2d. per oz., at which business has been done privately.

OIL, ORANGE.—Fourteen cases from Buenos Ayres realised from 3½d. to 4½d. per oz., quality being doubtful.

RHUBARB.—Firmly held in view of the favourable statistical position, but very slow of sale in auction. The following represents the business done publicly: Two cases small to medium round horny native High-dried with seven-eighths pinky fracture sold at 6d. Of Canton, 3 cases bold round, part roughly trimmed with half pinky and half grey and dark fracture sold at 1s. 1d., and 2 cases small and medium flat sold at 10½d. Medium round Shensi being scarce, was taken out at the fancy price of 3s. 6d., and trimming root at the same price. Of Shensi pickings, several cases had been sold privately, and 10 cases flat High-dried were held at 1s. per lb.

The following figures represent the rhubarb-exports from China from January 1 to August 31, 1903:

To London Piculs	To Continent of Europe Piculs	To New York Piculs	Total Piculs
448	1,176	254 ...	1,878
against same period last year —			
1,204	1,788	442 ...	3,434

On the other hand, our stock in London on September 30 was returned as follows:

	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898
Cases ...	307	531	428	1,074	1,338	1,034

SARSAPARILLA.—No grey Jamaica was offered. A new parcel of Honduras was offered and partly sold at 1s. 1d. for T Crown, representing good quality, which was cheap; old Crown was limited at 1s. 3d. per lb. Fair Lima-Jamaica was limited at 1s., and damaged at 11d., with 2 bales of country-damaged selling at 9d. Good bright red was taken out at 1s. 1d. per lb. Privately 6d. per lb. net is quoted for Mexican, and in New York the equivalent of 6½d. is asked.

SENEGA.—Very fair palish quality was held at 3s. 3d. per lb.

SENNA.—Close upon one thousand bales of Tinnevely senna were offered, and met with a strong competition, prices showing no material alterations. Fair to good bold greenish sold at 4d. to 4½d., medium greenish 3½d. to 4d., small and medium 2½d. to 3d., ordinary specky and common 1½d. to 2½d. per lb. Pods sold at from 1½d. to 1¾d. Alexandrian was partly offered without reserve, ordinary broken leaf selling at 4d., siftings at 1½d., and dark pods at 5½d. per lb. Nine bales of good siftings were held at 2¾d., and good pods at 6½d.

TONKA-BEANS.—Good frosted Para are now obtainable at 1s. 3d. per lb.

TURMERIC.—Small dull Cochin finger sold without reserve at 6s. 6d., and damaged Cochin bulbs at from 4s. to 8s. per cwt.

WAX, BEES'.—Jamaica was about 2s. 6d. lower, fair selling at 7l. 10s., and good was held at 7l. 12s. 6d. to 7l. 15s.; nice bleached Calcutta brought 7l. 5s. per cwt., bleached Spanish being held at 7l. 10s. Good Zanzibar block sold at 6l. 17s. 6d.; fair, slightly foul, brought 6l. 12s. 6d. to 6l. 15s., and yellow Bombay was held at 5l. 15s. Two bags Madagascar wax sold at 5l. 15s., and 3 bales Mozambique at 6l. 10s. per cwt.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is little of change or of particular importance to record as regards the general position of the heavy-chemical market at any of the principal centres. The improvement in the home-trade demand, both for prompt and forward, is well maintained, and the export section, when all things are considered, is in a satisfactory position too. Prices keep on the steady side, and generally are without material fluctuation.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Caustic soda is in good demand, and quotations are steadily maintained. Ammonia alkali and soda crystals are in similar position. Chlorates and prussiates are somewhat firmer. The position of bleaching-powder is, however, the point of most particular interest. The rumours regarding an arrangement are still floating about, but it is very difficult to say whether or no they will actually come to a satisfactory termination. Large quantities already have been booked at low prices, and although the requirements not already covered may have to be secured at higher prices, it does not seem absolutely certain that the heavy advance anticipated in certain quarters will be realised.

ALUMINA-PRODUCTS.—Consumptive demand is fully an average one, and prices rule steady at unchanged rates. Crystal alum, lump, 5l. to 5l. 5s. per ton; ground, in bags, 5l. 10s. to 5l. 15s. per ton; lump, in tierces, 5l. 5s. to 5l. 10s. per ton. Sulphate of alumina, purest qualities, practically free of iron, 4l. 5s. to 4l. 15s. per ton in usual casks, with customary allowances for hags and loose slabs. Aluminoferric, 55s. to 65s. per ton, according to condition and package. Aluminous cake, 52s. 6d. to 60s. per ton. Hydrate of alumina, purest quality and highest strength Al_2O_3 , 12l. to 12l. 10s. per ton in large casks. Hydrate of alumina, special pulp, 15s. 6d. to 15s. per cwt. Special pulp, dried in lump, 37s. 6d. to 38s. 6d. per cwt.; and ground, 38s. to 39s. per cwt.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, October 14

CASTOR OIL.—Good seconds Calcutta is still unchanged on the spot at $2\frac{3}{16}$ d. to $2\frac{1}{4}$ d., and $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. for first-pressure French. Rather more inquiry for shipment for the beginning of next year, prices being firm at $2\frac{3}{16}$ d. for shipment early next year.

COD-LIVER OIL is in rather more inquiry in spite of the high prices asked. There are no fresh arrivals of Newfoundland to report. Small lots of English have changed hands at from 14s. to 16s. per gallon.

CANARY-SEED.—Holders are still firm in their ideas, for Turkish 55s. for 464 lbs. being asked on the spot.

AFRICAN GINGER.—Some holders are slightly easier in their quotations, 29s. being asked, though no business has been done at this figure.

TARTARIC ACID.—Agents have advanced their price for delivery, $12\frac{1}{16}$ d. being asked for contracts over next year, though some agents will submit a fraction less.

CORIANDER-SEED.—Good quality is very scarce, 11s. 6d. per cwt. having been paid for poor.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—Price steadily advancing, holders being firm at 7s. 9d. per cwt.

ANISEED (RUSSIAN).—Good quality is very scarce. New crop appears to be of poor quality, and sellers are firm at 20s. to 22s. per cwt.

CALABAR BEANS.—Market is quite bare, the last lots offering having been sold at $8\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb., ex. quay.

BALSAM, COPAIBA (MARANHAM).—Only a limited quantity is available. Holders are asking 1s. $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

GUM ARABIC SORTS.—Considerable parcels have changed hands, some for shipment to the Continent. Stocks are much reduced, and reports are unfavourable from Egypt.

CARNAUBA WAX.—A further twenty-four bags have changed hands, mixed grey and medium at 84s. and medium at 85s. per cwt.

KOLA-NUTS.—Five bags dried were sold at the auctions at $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb., and five barrels of fresh at the same figure.

SPERMACETI.—Twenty cases of Chilean refined in store have been sold at $11\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, October 13.

Our drug-market shows a fair business and a better tone, several articles tending upwards.

ANISEED is very firm and dearer, as the new crop in Russia seems to be a failure; old crop is quoted 42m. to 43m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPOR (REFINED) is quiet, makers asking 425m. per 100 kilos., but second-hand will take less.

CASCARA SAGRADA is quiet and neglected; spot is quoted 175m. and delivery at 170m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT is scarce and firm at 375m. to 330m. per 100 kilos.

FENUGREEK is firmer at 13½m. per 100 kilos.

GOLDEN SEAL is firmer at 730m. per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA is also tending firmer, Rio being quoted 11½m. to 12m. and Cartagena 10½m. to 10½m.

MENTHOL is very scarce on spot especially Kobayashi brand, which is quoted forward at 42m. per kilo.

QUININE is firm; makers still ask 35m. per kilo, but an advance is probable.

SENEGA is firm at 730m. per 100 kilos. on the spot.

SPERMACETI is firmer at 225m. per 100 kilos.

OILS (FIXED).—Castor is steady, but the demand is small; first pressing, in barrels, is quoted 42m., and forward delivery 41m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver is firm at 470m. per barrel for non-congealing oil. Rape is tending higher at 48m. per 100 kilos.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Star-anise is rather better at 10m. per kilo. Peppermint is firm at 15m. per lb. for HGH.

American Drug-market.

New York, October 8.

Business continues to pick up slowly and the tone of the market is firm, with interest still centred in American staples.

BALSAMS.—Copaiba is jobbing freely at 34c. to 35c. for prime Central American. Para is plentiful at 37c. Peru is improving owing to reduction of stocks, and quotations show an advance to \$1.05.

BUCHU LEAVES.—No demand, and market easy at 21½c. for short. CASCARA SAGRADA is easing a trifle as new-crop comes in. Sales have been made at 18½c., and on the Pacific 18c. will buy. Old, on the spot, is held at 25c.

CITRIC ACID.—Domestic makers have reduced quotations to 32c. for barrel-lots.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Standard brands are held at \$120 to \$140. Pure Norwegian is arriving in small lots, and held at any figure from \$110 up. Some Japanese oil is being sold at \$1.50 to \$2.50 per gal.

ERGOT is advancing, in sympathy with foreign advices. Both Russian and Spanish are quoted 36c. to 40c.

GOLDEN SEAL is firmer, and quotations have advanced to 75c., with prospect of further advances.

MANDRAKE is quiet but firm, at 4½c. to 5c.

MENTHOL is firmer on the spot, and \$3.25 is now the inside price.

OPIMUM.—Demand is light but quotations are well maintained, and \$3.30 per lb. is an inside figure for cases.

PEPPERMINT OIL is the centre of attraction, with dealers awaiting developments. On the spot bulk oil is being held at \$3.10 and HGH at \$3.35. Supplies on the spot are light, and dealers are awaiting offers from producers.

QUININE is in fair demand. Java is in light supply and firm at 22½c. to 23½c. per oz., while German is held at 24c. to 24½c.

SARSAPARILLA.—Mexican is quiet, but firmly held at 10½c. Small lots have sold up to 11½c.

SENEGA.—Little new root is coming in from the producing centres and the market is quiet but firm, at 74c. to 75c. Some dealers quote higher and expect a much higher market.

SPERMACETI has advanced to 24c. for block.

THYMOL is dull and easier, at \$1.70 per lb.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, October 15:—Lycodium, senega, ipecacuanha, and cod-liver oil, are all firmly held. Cassia oil is advancing, and oil of turpentine is easier.

SMYRNA, October 15:—The sales of opium for the week ending Wednesday evening amount to 60 cases new crop at the equivalent of 8s. 4d. per lb., f.o.b., and 15 cases old crop at 8s. 10d.

NEW YORK, October 15:—Business here is good. Opium remains dull of sale, at \$3.25 per lb. in single cases. Quinine has a hardening tendency, at 25c. per oz. Ergot has advanced to 42c. per lb., and cascara sagrada is a strong market, at 19c. per lb. Senega is firmly held at 74c., and for mandrake-root 6c. is now wanted. An active market is reported for oil of peppermint, to-day's quotations being \$2.90 per lb. for tin oil and \$3.30 for HGH. Menthhol is firm, at \$6.50 per lb.

PERFUMERY valued at 2,060l. was imported into Zanzibar during 1902. The United Kingdom's share was only valued at 154l., compared with 901l. and 644l. sent by France and Germany respectively.

The Fiscal Question.

Commercial Preference.

By R. A. ROBINSON, Deputy-Chairman of the London County Council.

THE fiscal question has somewhat suddenly come to the front owing to the recent declarations of the ex-Colonial Secretary, although it is by no means a new one. I was a member of the Federated Chambers of Commerce of the Empire which met in London some few years ago, at which Congress Mr. Chamberlain said he should be glad if some means could be found to bind together the Colonies and the Mother Country by commercial ties to which both parties could agree. I also then learnt that the Colonies could not altogether abolish their import duties, as they required them for revenue-purposes, but the strongest feeling was manifested in favour of the Imperial idea then distinctly formulated. I think it may fairly be said that Mr. Chamberlain has since been steadily gathering information on the subject, and certainly he has had the very best opportunities for so doing. And he now tells the country he is satisfied, if we are to maintain and extend our commercial supremacy, the time has come when the whole question of the fiscal policy of the Empire must be reconsidered—in fact, he goes much further, and declares that with our present free-import arrangements we shall inevitably find our manufacturers undersold even in our own country, and the first steps of ruin and decay will speedily become apparent to all.

Even if some people do not admit the latter part, yet I cannot imagine why any reasonable person should object to the most searching inquiry on a matter of such vital importance to the nation. It is at least possible that the policy which suited the country half a century ago may not be that now required, in consequence of the tremendous changes which have taken place both at home and abroad as regards trade and commerce. I can cite an instance that has come under my personal notice, which, I think, is a fair illustration and a case in point, where the time has now come in the opinion of all persons competent to form an opinion—quite irrespective of party politics—for a distinct change of fiscal policy. I refer to the Port of London. For hundreds of years no dues have been levied on goods coming to the Thames: it has been a free river in that respect; the ships have paid a small tonnage-rate, but the goods have come in free. We now suddenly have it pressed upon our notice that the port is not altogether in a good way, although trade increases; other ports, both at home and abroad, have made enormous improvements by deepening and improving their docks and rivers, with the result that some of the largest ships now go to Continental ports in preference to the Thames, and we find a considerable part of our trade seriously threatened. And what attitude is assumed by the merchants and shipowners affected as well as by the citizens generally? They did not wait until ruin overtook them, but, on the contrary, an inquiry was at once demanded, and the Government accordingly appointed a Royal Commission to investigate and report on the whole matter. That Commission in due course reported, and one of their main recommendations was that more money is required for the improvement of the port, and that it must be raised by a small import-duty on all goods entering the river.

This entire change of policy is accepted by all parties (Liberals and Tories) without demur. Note also the significant fact that not only foreign ports, but also our own, have long ago adopted the plan now declared to be necessary for the Thames—viz., charging dues on all goods coming to the port, or in some cases abroad by a State subsidy—and they have flourished amazingly under such protection.

Trade has vastly increased on the Mersey, the Clyde, the Tyne, and several other places at home, as well as at Antwerp, Hamburg, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, &c.

All this seems to show that we must not bind ourselves too rigidly to continue old-established customs, merely because they are old, but that we must be awake to the requirements and necessities of to-day and the future. This comes home also to us in the affairs of our own business.

Surely, therefore, it is folly to insist upon keeping to our present plan of free imports (if it can be shown that we are

in danger of undermining our trade) merely because we have flourished under such a system in days gone by.

And that we are in some danger is, I think, not to be denied by those who will study the facts and figures as given in the Board of Trade returns and other official sources.

It is not to our interest having manufactured goods sent free to this country from abroad in increasingly large amounts, which could be made in this country perfectly well. In such cases the wages, rents, buildings, rateable value, &c., are expended not here, but for the benefit of our foreign rivals, to the great loss of our own workpeople, and in several cases to the entire ruin of what were once flourishing industries at home. Bearing on this point, I commend to notice the statement that we imported 1,000,000 tons of manufactured steel, and paid 10s. per ton less than we could produce it for at home. But that is not by any means the whole of the question, for it must be remembered that, although on the one hand we saved 500,000l., yet on the other the whole of the wages, charges, &c., were lost to this country, and they amounted to more than 4,000,000l.! So that, in order to save half-a-million, we lost to our workpeople and manufacturers in wages and other charges eight times as much. This is the crucial point of the controversy. Are we to allow our home industries to be injured by the free importation of foreign goods to compete with them, when those foreign countries do not allow our goods to enter their markets without paying heavy import duties? We are told by so-called free-traders that we must submit to this because the goods can be produced cheaper abroad than we can make them, and that our people must learn to do something else for a living!

Surely it is the height of folly, as well as illogical, for us to insist upon fair conditions of work and wages being given to our own workpeople—in fact, protecting their labour—and yet allow the fruits of unprotected cheap labour abroad to be poured into this country to compete with and undersell our own products. Many of our best working-men see this clearly enough, and do not want to have their labour unprotected by allowing anybody at any price to compete with them in their workshops.

But there are many other considerations of great importance surrounding this question. It is, I think, more than likely that, by the mere fact of our having the power to retaliate on those countries that at present strike at our trade by import-duties, we should be enabled to make satisfactory arrangements with them, whereby a mutually fair tariff could be arranged to the advantage of those trades in both countries the products of which can best be produced in each, and instead of our trade being injured it would be greatly benefited. For it must be remembered we are very good customers of several foreign nations, and they would probably be very glad to have a good understanding with us, and secure increased stability and volume of trade. As for the strange argument put forward that we might offend other countries, surely it is not likely or reasonable that we alone are to be debarred from doing that which we think necessary for our own trade, while others may do as they like for themselves.

And, further, when the patriotic view of Imperial unity is also borne in mind, it becomes more than ever imperative that we should not hesitate to do anything in our power to bind together the Mother Country and her Colonies, even if we had to make some sacrifices on both sides.

Mr. Chamberlain recently wrote:

I am not surprised to hear that a great advocate of Lord Melbourne's policy of "letting well alone" has admitted that the facts and arguments are very difficult to answer. It is not "well" with British trade.

After a long period of success the policy of unrestricted free imports has now shown evident signs of failure. Our exports are stationary in amount and declining in character. We receive from our competitors a larger proportion of manufactured goods and we send them a larger proportion of raw materials than we used to do. Our supremacy in what have always been considered our standard industries has been wrested from us or is seriously menaced. One by one markets, once profitable and expanding, are closed to us by hostile tariffs. We have lost all power of bargaining successfully for the removal or reduction of these barriers to our trade.

Our Colonies alone continue to increase their purchases, and even here we must abandon all hope of expansion, and are

threatened with the loss of our existing trade if we are unable to meet their request for reciprocal preference. The competition which is already so acute is not a fair competition. It is supported by bounties, fostered by the operations of trusts, strengthened by the economical advantages which our opponents enjoy in the shape of cheaper labour, and in the absence of all those regulations which we have assented to in the interest of the working-classes and in order to raise their standard of living.

To sum up—any duty on food imposed to secure preferential trade with our Colonies will be a small one. It may probably be wholly paid, and will certainly be partly paid, by the foreigners. The additional cost, if any, to the working-classes will be fully met by an equivalent reduction in other articles of food equally necessary to their existence. The dear-food cry is an imposture, and the little loaf a bugbear. The question of tariff-reform may be considered on its merits without any fear that the cost of living will be increased to the poor.

On the other hand, our tariffs may be revised so as to secure the following advantages:

1. An increase of trade with our fellow-subjects and best customers, who not only take much more per head from us than the foreigners, but take it in the shape of manufactured goods, whose production involves the employment of the greatest amount of labour.

2. The power of bargaining with our competitors, and thereby of securing either that they shall take more of the products of our labour in return for the products of their labour, or that they shall leave the British market more completely to British labour.

3. In either case this change, and the increased trade with the Colonies, will provide more employment for our own people, and a greater demand for our own labour.

4. If the demand for labour increases, the wages of labour must rise also, and full work at fair prices will enable our manufacturers to pay higher wages without loss to themselves.

Lastly, we shall have made a great advance towards the union of the Empire, and taken a first step towards freer trade with the rest of the world.

But it is important that we should not engage to go further in this direction of tariff reform than we find desirable or necessary. I do not advocate a sudden and gigantic revolution of all our vast and complicated trading arrangements. It would probably be enough to give the Executive Government authority to consider any application made to them by traders at home, when they were subject to unfair competition from abroad, and then for the Government, on proof submitted, to negotiate with the foreign State in order to get fair conditions, failing which we should take such steps as we thought proper to protect our own industry. As regards the Colonies, an earnest intention on both sides would soon lead to a fair plan of commercial preference with them. I personally have little doubt this would have an excellent effect and probably gain the desired object. I do not agree with the statement made by Mr. A. C. Wootton in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* last week that "protection, whatever its merits may be, must be essentially unjust."

Apparently this doctrine does not prevail in other parts of the globe, as we find so many Governments throughout the civilised world all resorting to it as a most legitimate means of increasing their prosperity. Is it not somewhat rash, to say the least of it, for us to assume that we know better than all the rest of the world what is best, just or unjust, in so complex a system as international trade? I, for one, plead that we may be unfettered by such insular ideas, and, on the contrary, we may leave ourselves absolutely free to deal with all such questions on business-lines that would commend themselves to a nation of business men. John Stuart Mill wrote:

A country cannot be expected to renounce the power of taxing foreigners unless foreigners will in return practise towards itself the same forbearance. *The only mode in which a country can save itself from being a loser by the revenue duties imposed by other countries on its commodities is to impose corresponding revenue duties on theirs.* Only it must take care that these duties be not so high as to exceed all that remains of the advantage of the trade, and put an end to importation altogether, causing the article to be either produced at home or imported from another and a dearer market.

I am clearly of opinion that an amount, varying with different conditions of trade, can be found which will give some protection to our industries without being too burdensome to us, and, of course, I do not want to injure or ruin our foreign trade. As regards chemicals, let us see how different countries treat such important articles of commerce.

Taking ten items as they appear in one of the lists, it will be seen that England has no duties on any of them, but that France, Italy, Russia, Japan, and the United States all tax them to a considerable amount. They are as follows: Alkali, alum, white arsenic, bleaching-materials, borax (refined), brimstone, copperas, Epsom salts, sal ammoniac, saltpetre and salt; the duties vary from 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, imposed by Japan, up to enormous amounts by Russia and the United States.

Is it not just possible such a policy may have something to do with the significant facts that our total sales to the United States have fallen

from 30,000,000% in 1880,
to 19,000,000% in 1900,

while our purchases from that country have increased during exactly the same period

from 107,000,000% in 1880,
to 138,000,000% in 1900?

On the other hand, our exports to British possessions have increased by 26,000,000% during the last four years—viz., from 83,000,000% in 1898 to 109,000,000% in 1902.

The total exports from protected countries like America, Holland, Germany, Belgium, Russia, &c., are increasing rapidly—far more in proportion than our own—and this does not seem to fit in with the statement that free imports enable us successfully to compete in neutral markets: it is not much good to us unless we also have access to foreign markets by a commercial treaty fair to both countries. That is just what we have not got under our present system, but which we ought to have, and for which we are contending. I do not think that our vast commerce is suddenly going to be ruined, but I do earnestly believe we ought at once to take such steps as will preserve and consolidate it, and not let a policy of drift prevail until it becomes too late to prevent severe injury and distress to thousands of our work-people for whom, by the necessity of our position, we must find remunerative work at home.

Finally, it is not within the range of practical politics that we shall be likely to have everything we need, from the cradle to the grave, taxed as in the days of old; and it is certain no taxes, however small, can possibly be imposed except with the consent of the nation. That we may be enabled to judge rightly in so grave and important a matter must be the earnest desire of all patriotic citizens of the Empire.

Scientific Progress.

Isopral is a new hypnotic, which, chemically, is trichlorisopropyl alcohol. It forms beautiful prismatic crystals, melting at 49° C., easily sublimable, and soluble in ether, alcohol, or water.

French Parsley Oil.—Thoms finds that French oil of parsley contains very little apiol, but in its place a considerable quantity of myristicin, the body found in mace and nutmeg oils (*Pharm. Zeit.*, 1903, 782).

Gurjun Balsam.—According to Tschirch and Weil (*Arch. Pharm.* 1903, 1,004), the average sp. gr. of gurjun balsam is 0.964, and the oil (which may be present to the extent of 80-82 per cent.) has a sp. gr. of about 0.911, and boils at 255° C. The neutral residue present appears to have the empirical formula $C_{17}H_{25}O_2$.

Nerol.—A patent has been granted to Heine & Co., of Leipzig, for the preparation of the body nerol, an isomer of geraniol, discovered by them in oil of neroli. The compound is used for the synthetic production of flower-odours, and has the following characters: It combines with four atoms of bromine, boils at 225-226° at ordinary pressure, and at 125° at 25 mm. It has a sp. gr. of 0.880-0.885.

Tannoids of Chinese Rhubarbs.—Gilson (*Pharm. Central.*, 1903, 662) has separated from Chinese rhubarb two glucosides which he terms glycogallin and tetrarin, and also catechin. Glycogallin has the formula $C_{13}H_{16}O_{10}$, and on decomposition yields dextro-glucose and gallic acid. Tetrarin has the formula $C_{32}H_{32}O_{13}$, and on hydrolysis with weak acid yields dextro-glucose, gallic acid, cinnamic acid, and an aldehyde of the formula $C_{10}H_{12}O_2$, which he terms rheosmin.

THE exports of beeswax and honey from Hayti for the year ending September 30, 1902, amounted to 172,901 lbs. and 18,753 gallons respectively.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE first meeting of the newly elected Council was held on Wednesday, October 7, in the Society's House, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at three o'clock. The following were present: Messrs. G. D. Beggs, P. Kelly, Dr. Walsh, William Jameson (Belfast), Thomas Batt, Wm. Doig, James Tate (Belfast), W. Vincent Johnston, T. Moffitt (Belfast), Henry Golden (Birr), J. Smith, George Brown, David Watson, Professor Tichborne, and, W. F. Wells. Mr. Beggs, as retiring President, took the chair.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The CHAIRMAN briefly stated the result of the late Ballinasloe prosecutions, and said he did so because it was stated the other night at the general meeting that the Council were afraid of spending money. So long as he belonged to the Society—and he hoped it would be a long time—they should never be afraid to spend money. Mr. Beggs then proceeded to deal with the election of a President, and proposed that Mr. Johnston Montgomery, of Belfast, should occupy the chair in the coming year. He spoke of Mr. Montgomery as a hard worker and a man who had stood in the breach when he was wanted; and it would be a very nice compliment indeed to the North to put him in the chair now. He saw no reason why they should not have a President from the country, and he instanced what had been done by the English Society in this regard.

Mr. SMITH seconded the motion. He said he was sure that Mr. Montgomery would make a most efficient President,



MR. MONTGOMERY.

and would devote his time and great abilities to the work of the Society.

Mr. KELLY supported the motion, as did also Mr. DOIG.

Mr. WELLS said there was a strong feeling that Mr. Beggs ought to retain the position of President for another year, and he proposed that he be elected.

Mr. TATE said he appreciated very highly the kindness of those who had spoken in favour of Mr. Montgomery; but he had had an interview with him, and had understood from him that he would on no account accept the presidentship, and on his behalf he (Mr. Tate) asked them to allow him to nominate Mr. Beggs for the office. In the North they appreciated the good work that Mr. Beggs had done for the Society, and they knew that he had discharged the duties of the office as few men could.

Mr. JAMESON seconded this proposal.

Mr. BEGGS said he was extremely obliged to them for the honour they wished to confer on him, but he feared he must decline it. His time would be very fully occupied next year, and he asked to be allowed to retire for a while at least.

Mr. WELLS said Mr. Montgomery was a conscientious man, and his difficulty was that he could not attend all the Council meetings and devote all the time and attention to the duties of the office that he thought ought to be devoted to them. However, they might pass the resolution for his election, and he could decline afterwards.

The motion for the election of Mr. Montgomery as President was then put, and unanimously carried.

Mr. BEGGS then proposed Mr. Patrick Kelly as Vice-President.

Mr. MOFFITT seconded, saying that the election of Mr. Kelly as Vice-President would give great pleasure to all the past students of the Society, both at home and abroad; and he was sure that he would discharge the duties of the office with credit to the Society and to himself.

Mr. TATE said he thought there was some difficulty about this election. Mr. Montgomery lived at a considerable distance from Dublin, and the Vice-President should therefore be a man well up in the routine work connected with the chair, otherwise the President would be handicapped. He therefore proposed Mr. Wells as Vice-President.

Mr. VINCENT JOHNSTON seconded.

Mr. WELLS said he did not at all like his name being put forward in opposition to Mr. Kelly's, but there was one objection to Mr. Kelly being elected to the office, and that was that he was, so to speak, a salaried official of the Society. He (Mr. Wells) should not feel free to vote for him under the circumstances. If Mr. Kelly would give up the school, he would be the very first to vote for him.

Mr. KELLY said he was very grateful to those who had proposed him, but he was not ambitious. He came into the Council with a desire to do his business conscientiously, and he had done so to the best of his ability. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, in order to set matters right, he would decline the honour offered to him, and sincerely thanked them.

The motion for the election of Mr. Wells as Vice-President was then put, and unanimously carried.

Mr. WELLS took the chair, and, in returning thanks, said that whilst he highly appreciated the honour, he had not been at all anxious for the position, but he believed that when Mr. Montgomery knew he would have the assistance of one as conversant as he (Mr. Wells) was with the work of the Society in Dublin he would retain the position of President, and he assured them that he would give him every assistance in his power. (Applause.)

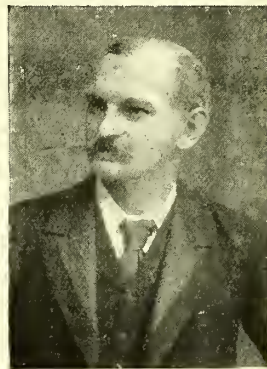
The VICE-PRESIDENT then moved the re-election of Mr. John Smith as Hon. Treasurer. Dr. WALSH seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. SMITH, in returning thanks, said their balance up to the present had always been on the right side. All that they owed was something like 22/ or 23/. They had a house, and funds in the bank, and their financial outlook was very pleasing. The only thing he felt in the matter was that they were not a body that should hoard money. They should freely spend it as they went along. He was against saving when it was necessary to spend; at the same time it was always advisable to economise as much as possible in order that they should have funds to meet the very heavy cases with which they had from time to time to deal.

Messrs. George Brown and Patrick Kelly were re-elected auditors; and the several committees were elected.

THANKS TO MR. BEGGS.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said that before they passed to the other business of the day it was right that they should



MR. WELLS.

thank their late President (Mr. George Beggs) for his services whilst in the chair during the past three and a half years. He had thrown himself into the work of the office and performed its duties well. He was a universal favourite with the members of the Society, and had upheld its honour and dignity, not only at home, but on several occasions at Conferences in England. He was one of those men who did well whatever he undertook to do. At the annual meeting on the previous night a most satisfactory balance-sheet was submitted. One of the speakers said that it was not a balance-sheet, and that the Society might be in a state of bankruptcy for anything that it showed to the contrary. But the answer was very simple. What was placed before the annual meeting was not a balance-sheet as business-men understood it, but simply a treasurer's cash-statement for the year, and it was not usual for debts to come into such a statement. But it would be seen from the agenda-paper that they had only a few bills to pay. One of these was a matter of 13½ taxes that was only now due. At the end of last month all that they owed was about 23½, and when that was paid they would owe nothing for last year. He thought that was a very satisfactory state of affairs. (Hear, hear.) They had paid their solicitor's account—which was generally the biggest call on them—practically up to date. Of course the costs of the case tried the other day were not included. So that there was nothing like bankruptcy near them. They had always a nest egg to enable them to pay debts up to any time. This state of things was due to their late President, assisted by the other officers of the Society; and he therefore asked them to pass a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Beggs. (Applause.)

Mr. KELLY said that, as one of the longest in the shop, he desired to second the motion. It was with great regret that they saw Mr. Beggs out of the chair. (Applause.)

The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. BEGGS said he was very much obliged for the kind expressions that had been used towards him. When he took the chair he had before him the example of the late Mr. Downes, and felt that he should never be able to reach it. However, if they were satisfied with what he had done, he could be. It was gratifying to have received letters, as he had, from North, South, East, and West asking him to continue in the chair; and all he could say was that if a chance occurred again and they should like to put him into the chair he would esteem it a very great honour indeed. (Applause.)

SIR GEORGE DUFFEY RESIGNS.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he had to mention another matter which was not of such a very pleasant character. Sir George Duffey, who had been their Government Visitor for a number of years, had been very ill, and had felt it necessary to resign that office which he had exercised with such great benefit to the Society. Everyone who ever came into contact with Sir George found him a thorough gentleman. He had done a great deal of good to the Society by his reports, and had looked well after the interests of the candidates. It was with deep regret that he announced his resignation, and as they could not allow his connection with them to be severed without placing on record their appreciation of his services, he begged to move the following resolution:

The members of this Council have heard with deep regret of the resignation of Sir George F. Duffey, M.D., Visitor on behalf of his Majesty's Privy Council at the Examinations of the Society, a position which he has held for the past eighteen years; and they desire to express their sincere sympathy with him in his long and trying illness, and express the hope that he may be soon restored to health. They wish to place on record their appreciation of his universal courtesy and kindness, and of the services which he has rendered to the Society by the valuable suggestions which he has made from time to time in his official reports, many of which the Council have adopted and so increased the efficiency of their examinations.

Mr. BEGGS seconded the motion. He said Sir George Duffey had taken a deep interest in the work and examinations of the Society, and although his strictures were sometimes a little severe, they were always made with a good heart and a desire to elevate these examinations.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and it was ordered to be entered on the minutes and a copy sent to Sir George Duffey.

The VICE-PRESIDENT: We have got a good successor to Sir George Duffey in Sir John William Moore, a gentleman who has already shown himself more than friendly to the Society. After we received Sir George Duffey's letter of resignation the Castle authorities approached your late President, and we gave a few names—as we had done on previous occasions—and from these they selected Sir John William Moore. When the Poisons question was before Parliament he gave our then President a great deal of help, and in him we will have a good man for the position and a gentleman who has always been a friend to the Society. He attended for the first time yesterday at the examinations.

BOTANY LECTURES.

In reference to a letter from the Curator of Trinity College Botanical Gardens,

The VICE-PRESIDENT mentioned that for some years the Society's lecturer in botany had been giving demonstrations in the College Gardens. As there was no authority for this, it had become necessary to write to the Curator, whose reply was that there would be no difficulty about granting the required permission, and that the letter had been sent on to the Board.

On the motion of Mr. BROWN, seconded by Mr. WATSON, thanks were voted to the Smithsonian Institution for a donation of fourteen pamphlets.

On the motion of Mr. BEGGS, Mr. Arthur H. Laird, first-class honours natural science, T.C.D., who had been temporarily appointed lecturer in botany, was reappointed.

OTHER BUSINESS.

The VICE-PRESIDENT congratulated Dr. Walsh on his re-election to the Council, and Dr. WALSH returned thanks.

On the motion of Mr. BEGGS, seconded by Mr. CONNOR, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society: Messrs. E. F. Flood, Dundalk; and M. R. J. Hayes, Dublin.

Registered letters, making inquiry as to change of residence, to which no replies have yet been received from the addressees, were forwarded on February 24 and August 28, 1903, to the following:

Pharmaceutical Chemists.

Alexander Ferguson Allan, 23 Castle Street, Dalkey, co. Dublin.

Edward John Boileau, 3 Prince of Wales Terrace, Ball's Bridge, Dublin.

William Burns, 20 Castle Place, Belfast.

Dr. Richard Howard, Arklow.

Walter E. Evans, 136 George Street, Limerick.

John Hughes, 108 George Street, Limerick.

James Lennox McAlister, 25 Cornmarket, Belfast.

Henry Robert Warren, 12 Church Street, Athlone.

Chemists and Druggists.

Patrick J. Finan, 30 Market Street, Sligo.

William Joseph Reynolds, 8 Hardwicke Street, Dublin.

Mark Halpen Sweny, 1 Lincoln Place, Dublin.

Registered Druggists.

Robert Adamson, 52 High Street, Lurgan.

Patrick D. Cussen, 18 Glentworth Street, Limerick.

Richard Elgee Scarlett, 113 Thomas Street, Dublin.

William C. Spencer, 197 Clonliffe Road, Dublin.

The Council then separated.

New Books.

Stansbie, J. H. *Introduction to Metallurgical Chemistry for Technical Students*. 7½ x 4½. Pp. 200. 4s. 6d. net. (Wright & Co.)

Strangeways, T. S. P. *Clinical Pathology and Practical Morbid Histology*. 3rd ed. Cr. 8vo, 7½ x 4½. Pp. 108. 5s. net. (Strangeways.)

Thomson, S., Steele, J. C. *Dictionary of Domestic Medicine*. 37th ed. By Albert Westland and Geo. Reid. 9½ x 6. Pp. 772. 10s. 6d. (Griffin.)

Thresh, J. C. *Simple Method of Water-analysis*. 4th ed. 6½ x 4½. 2s. 6d. (Churchill.)

Timpany, H. M. *Arithmetic of Elementary Physics and Chemistry*. 7½ x 4½. Pp. 74. 1s. (Blackie.)